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Remodeling & Makeovers™



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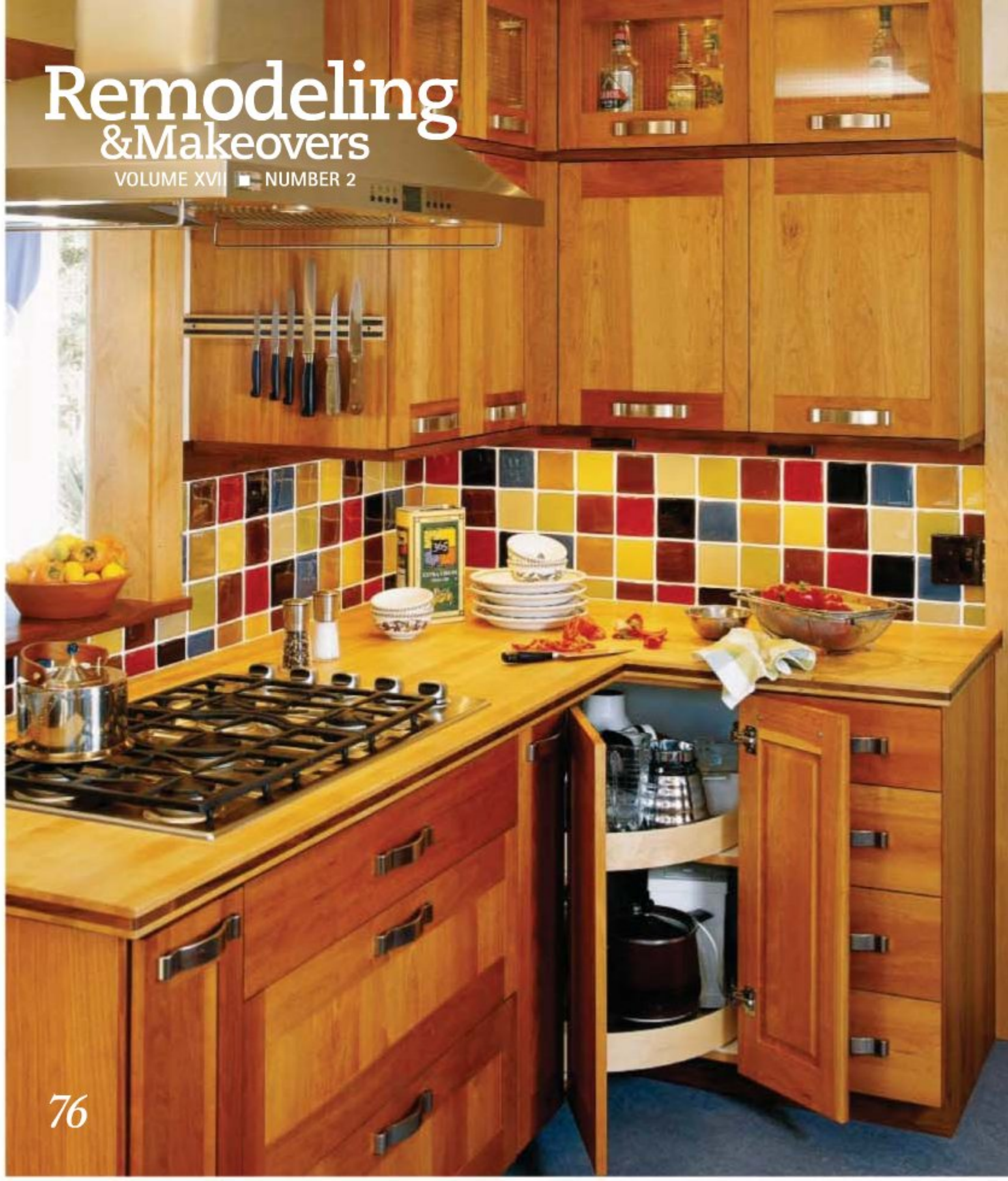
63 Money-Saving Energy Tips

CONQUER CLUTTER
39 Organizing Tricks

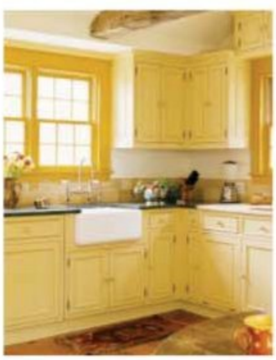
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Remodeling &Makeovers
VOLUME XVII ■ NUMBER 2



on the cover



PHOTOGRAPH: TRIA GIOVAN
DESIGN: MATTHEW E. SCHOENHERR, Z ARCHITECTURE
FOR STORY, SEE PAGE 94.

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PHOTOGRAPH: ERIK RANK HAIR AND MAKEUP: ANGELA HUFF, FOR MARK EDWARD, INC.

Earthy Delights

Wherever you turn today, there's more and more info about the green movement. Finally our dear planet is getting the attention it deserves! Though some people—Robert Redford, Robert Kennedy, Jr., Laurie David and former Vice President Al Gore—have been speaking out about conservation, preservation and global warming for years, it's only recently begun to have an impact. We've all become aware how *simple* changes in our daily lives can have a big, big benefit for the environment, our health—even our wallets.

At the 2007 builders' trade show, the plethora of green products was positively exhilarating. Also on the market are energy-efficient windows for every budget, layered drywall for noise abatement, filtration systems for clean air, energy-saving solar panels, sustainable wood and flooring, and many products made from recycled goods. Pretty soon, we won't have any choice but to go green, green, green!

This issue will put you more in touch with eco-friendly building, creating a healthy home and earth-sensitive products. There's also a primer to sort out the lingo ("Green House," page 50), and identify the changes you can easily incorporate into your everyday life.

—Karen Walden,
Editor
kwalden@hfmus.com

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Editorial and Advertising Offices:
1633 Broadway, New York, NY 10019
Woman's Day Remodeling & Makeovers is published 5 times yearly by Hachette Filipacchi Media U.S., Inc.
1633 Broadway, New York, NY 10019
Volume XVII, Number 2, Remodeling & Makeovers

Canadian Business Number 126018209 RT

www.hfmus.com












[We want your remodel!]



Dear Reader,

Have you just enlarged your kitchen with a new family dining addition? Annexed unused closet space near your bedroom to create a luxurious spa bath? Made over your attic as a storage-filled home office? Or bravely completed a true whole-house remodel? If so, I'd like to see what you did! No remodeling project is too big or too small for us. We'd like to see them all. So e-mail your photographs (at least 300 dpi) to me at the address below or send photos to me at Woman's Day Special Interest Publications, 1633 Broadway, 42nd floor, New York, NY 10019. (Only photographs sent with a self-addressed, stamped envelope will be returned.)

—**Olivia Monjo**
Editor in Chief
omonjo@hfmus.com

coming next



TY PENNINGTON AT HOME
on sale May 15

- Behind the Scenes with Ty on *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*
- Tour Ty's house, up close and personal
- Exclusive DIY projects designed by Ty
- Ty answers your decorating questions



KITCHENS & BATHS
on sale May 29

- Special Section: Al fresco cooking and dining
- Connecting your kitchen to the great outdoors
- Our 2007 Kitchens & Baths Design Showcase
- Ways to create a home spa

WEB

Go to *www.womansday.com/specials* for great ideas and inspiration, tips, fun how-tos and much more! Read about creating a romantic bedroom, beautifying your deck, choosing the best lighting, walking off weight and more. Plus, enter our giveaways and win!

Remodeling &Makeovers™

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PHOTOGRAPH: TOP, LUCIANA PAMPALONE HAIR AND MAKEUP: STEPHANIE PARENT, FOR MARK EDWARD INC.


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[nuts+bolts]

The latest green products for your home

WRITTEN BY BILL PARTSCH







HIP SQUARES

Beyond the pretty colors and happening patterns, the Echo collection from Granada Tiles is a testament to doing things naturally. Tiles are cured and dried in the sun, not in a kiln, and they're made from natural pigments and materials. The company recycles and reuses the water, loose cement, rejected tiles and leftover sand from manufacturing. $20 to $40 per square foot. 213-482-8070; *www.granadatiles.com.*



PHOTOGRAPH: BELOW RIGHT, ANDY MATTERN

NATURAL SURFACE

Clays, natural pigments and recycled or reclaimed aggregates go into American Clay's Natural Earth plasters. Three collections boast an array of wall finishes, including textured, matte and polished. The surface is nontoxic, mold- and fade-resistant, and doesn't generate dust. Shown here is Loma in Nantucket Sand and Sanibel Sunset. About $1 a square foot. 866-404-1634; *www.americanclay.com.*


OZONE
Ozone in the atmosphere: Healthy.
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While naturally occurring ozone high above the earth protects us from the sun's harmful UV radiation, ground-level ozone is bad news. In fact, according to the EPA, this man-made pollutant has been proven to aggravate asthma, reduce lung capacity and increase susceptibility to respiratory illnesses. So it's nice to know you can trust Lennox™ Healthy Climate® products to dramatically improve indoor air quality. And unlike competitors, they won't release harmful ozone into your home in the process. So why live with bad air? With Lennox your family can breathe a little easier. To learn more, call 1-800-9-LENNOX or visit Lennox.com.
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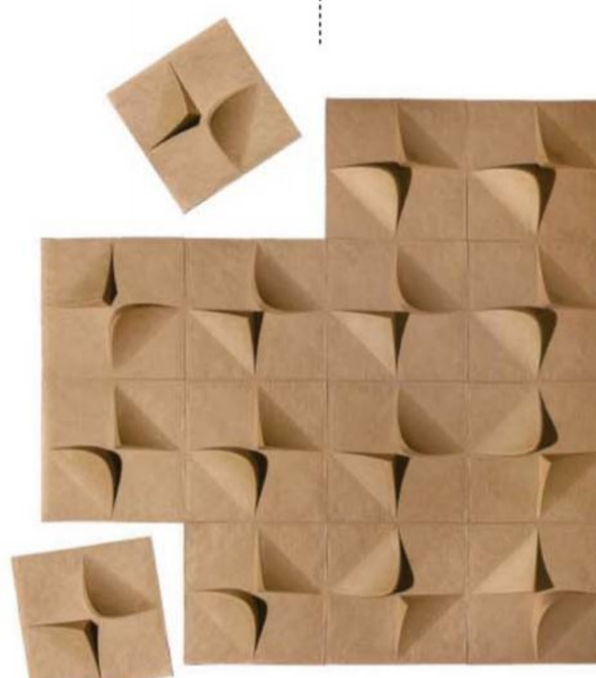


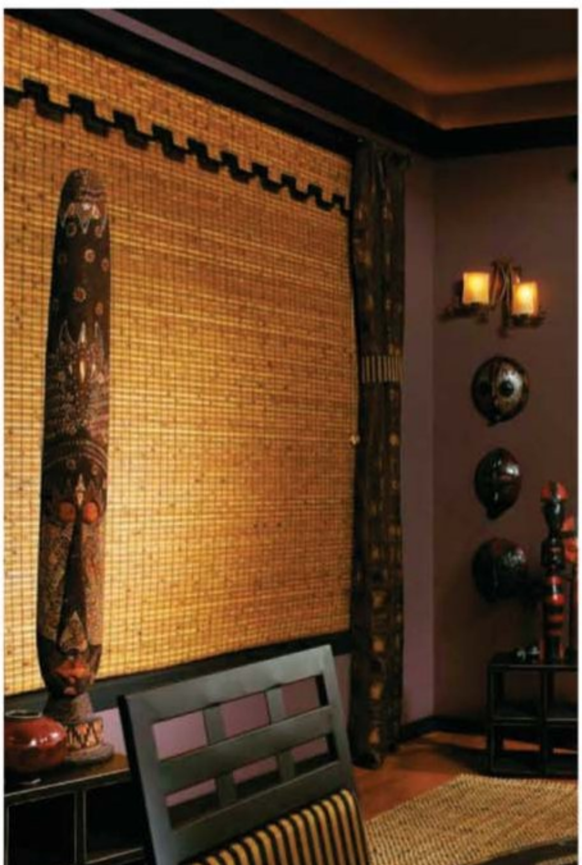
AFTER THE WINE IS GONE

Staves of empty oak wine barrels have been reincarnated as rustic benches from VivaTerra. The contour of the staves makes them well suited for sitting. The simple design blends in with a variety of styles, especially contemporary and Asian-inspired spaces. $219 each; $372 a pair. 800-233-6011; *www.vivaterra.com.*

TOUCHY SUBJECTS

Textured wallpaper tiles offer a new dimension to an established product. The geometric bumps on these 1-foot-square tiles from Mio stick out 2 inches from the wall. Made from 100 percent recycled paper, tiles come in packs of 12 in natural (shown), white, mint or orange. $26 per package for natural; $34 for colors. 215-925-9359; *www.mioculture.com.*





SHADES OF MEANING

In addition to regulating light and offering handsome earth-tone accents, Tradewinds blinds from Graber take it easy on the ecosystem. They're made of natural, readily renewable materials such as rattan, bamboo, grasses and reeds. Coordinating valances and trim are available. $150 to $265 for a 42×60-inch window. 877-792-0002; *www.graberblinds.com.*



TREATS FROM TRASH

The same stuff most people would toss or give to charity, T.O.M.T. transforms into an assortment of fresh lighting and furniture. Examples include a long garden hose coiled into a hassock, medicine cabinets made from old suitcases and a lamp mounted on a vintage upright vacuum. Here, the cage and body of an old fan gets a new life as a hanging ceiling light with a few bulb sockets. $350. 718-237-9781; *www.tomtinc.com.*



EVER GREEN LIGHTS

When these lights go on, your electric bill may get lower—and the environment may benefit. Progress Lighting's Everlume fixtures have LED bulbs that use two to five times less energy than comparable incandescent or fluorescent lamps and last about 20 years. Dimmable and cool to the touch, they provide warm, incandescent-like light in recessed pucks, cove lighting, mini-pendants and other forms. Tapered bell mini-pendants (shown), $180 each. 864-599-6000; *www.progresslighting.com.*

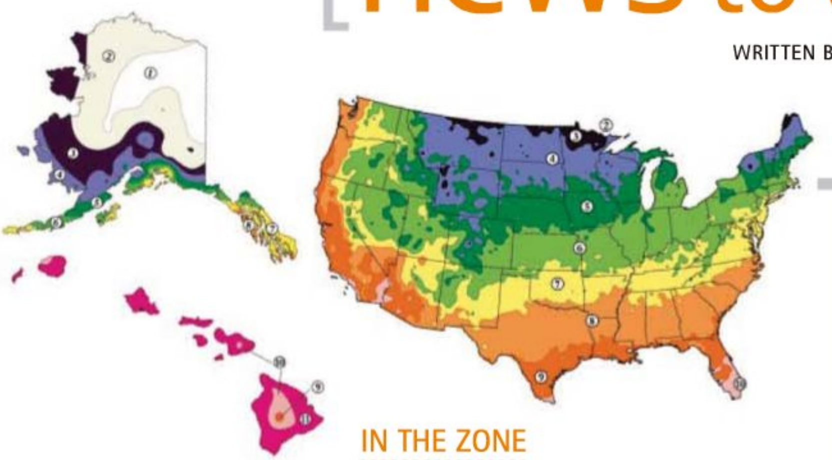


BREATHE DEEP

Sleek Filtrete air purifiers from 3M remove dust, smoke and pollen from rooms as large as 150 square feet. The Ultra Slim model (shown) has a remote control, programmable timer and a night light. If the slender footprint doesn't satisfy your desire for a clutter-free floor, mount the unit on a wall. $300. 888-364-3577; *www.3m.com.* ■

[news to use]

WRITTEN BY LISA LIEBMAN



IN THE ZONE

ZONE	AVG. ANNUAL LOW
1	Below -50°F
2	-40°F through -50°F
3	-30°F through -40°F
4	-20°F through -30°F
5	-10°F through -20°F
6	0°F through -10°F
7	10°F through 0°F
8	20°F through 10°F
9	30°F through 20°F
10	40°F through 30°F
11	Above 40°F

Since much of the country has been warmer lately, the National Arbor Day Foundation redrew the map that divides the country into temperature zones that help people know what plants will thrive in their area. Substantial portions of many states have moved at least one full zone. For example, most of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio have shifted from Zone 5 to warmer Zone 6. Other places have warmed up two full zones. Zones are based on average low temperatures over the last 15 years. To find your new zone, go to *www.arborday.org* and click on "New Updated Hardiness Zones."

DID YOU KNOW?

American buildings account for the use of 40% of all global raw materials and produce about 30% of all greenhouse gas emissions.

GREEN MACHINES

The federal government's Energy Star ratings evaluate appliances based on guidelines set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and identify those that are more energy efficient.



While many manufacturers comply with Energy Star's minimum standards, some take it a lot further. According to the DOE, Bosch's Nexxt series washing machines are more efficient than other manufacturers' units. U.S. consumers will buy over 10 million washing machines in 2007. If every one purchased was a Bosch Energy Star model, the overall water savings would be 900 billion gallons, enough to provide a lifetime supply of drinking water to 67 million people.



THE RIGHT LIGHT

If 100 million incandescent bulbs are replaced with compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs), Americans can potentially save $3 billion in electricity costs and prevent 20 million metric tons of greenhouse gases from entering the atmosphere. That's comparable to taking 700,000 cars off the road or powering 450,000 single-family homes for one year. With that in mind, Wal-Mart is aiming to sell 100 million CFLs in 2007. Don't need that many bulbs in your home? Here's what converting just one standard 60 watt bulb to a 13 watt CFL can save:

- $30 in electrical costs over the life of the bulb
- The cost of production, transport and disposal of 10 conventional bulbs
- The burning of 220 pounds of coal
- The emission of 450 pounds of greenhouse gasses.

So whether you buy CFLs from Wal-Mart or some other retailer, the fact that they conserve up to 75 percent more energy than regular bulbs makes them a bright idea. ■



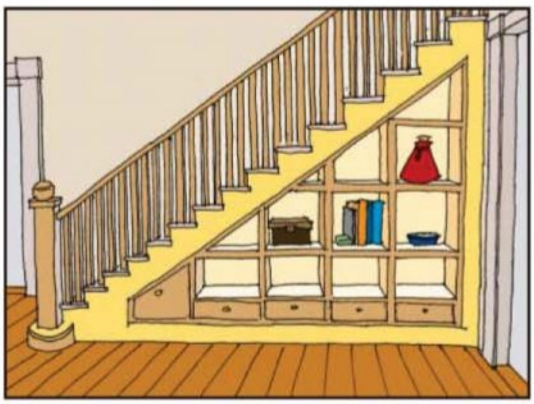

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[ask the expert]

Donald W. Powers, AIA, shares home-makeover tips



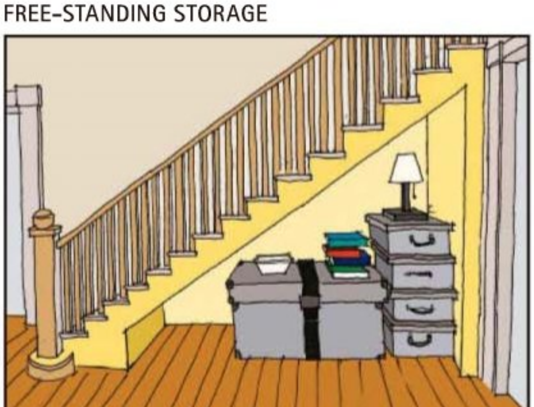
BUILT-IN SHELVES



CREATIVE DISPLAY



FREE-STANDING STORAGE



We'd like to make the dead space under our main staircase more productive. Any ideas?

Take a cue from the Shakers. They were famous for making the most of every inch of space. In Shaker villages (such as Enfield, New Hampshire, and Hancock, Massachusetts) one can see beautiful examples of built-in banks of drawers that use every leftover bit of space from attic eaves to beneath stair stringers. A less expensive alternative would be open bookshelves built in a grid that steps down along the slope of the stringer. But don't discount the option of doing nothing. I'm a firm believer that wasted space is not always wasted.

Leftover spaces, if opened up and finished, become opportunities for display: an interesting object, a low table with flowers, a seasonal arrangement. Depending on how your stair is oriented to adjacent areas, this space can become a focal point. Add recessed lighting in the underside of the stair to illuminate this quirky niche and the objects you choose to showcase. It will be unexpected and appealing. If the space absolutely must pull its weight as storage, consider using free-standing pieces that are visually interesting. A handsome leather steamer trunk, for example, would slide nicely into the finished spot below a stair run. ■

NEED AN ANSWER? We can help! Send your questions to Ask the Expert c/o Woman's Day SIPs, 1633 Broadway, 42nd Floor, New York, NY 10019; e-mail it to *experts@hfmus.com*; or fax it to 212-767-5618. Please include your name, address, daytime phone number and e-mail address. We're sorry but we're unable to reply to every question.

E-MAIL US & WIN! If your home-remodeling question is chosen to run in this column you will receive a free copy of *The Kitchen Book* or *The Bathroom Book* (Filipacchi Publishing, $29 each).


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[ways to]
save energy

WRITTEN BY KATHRYN LOOSLI PRITCHETT



PHOTOGRAPH: BOSCH

Environmental activist Laurie David has had it with global-warming doubters. "It's simple: The globe is warming," she says. "We didn't mean for it to, but it is. Now we have to decide what we're going to do about it."

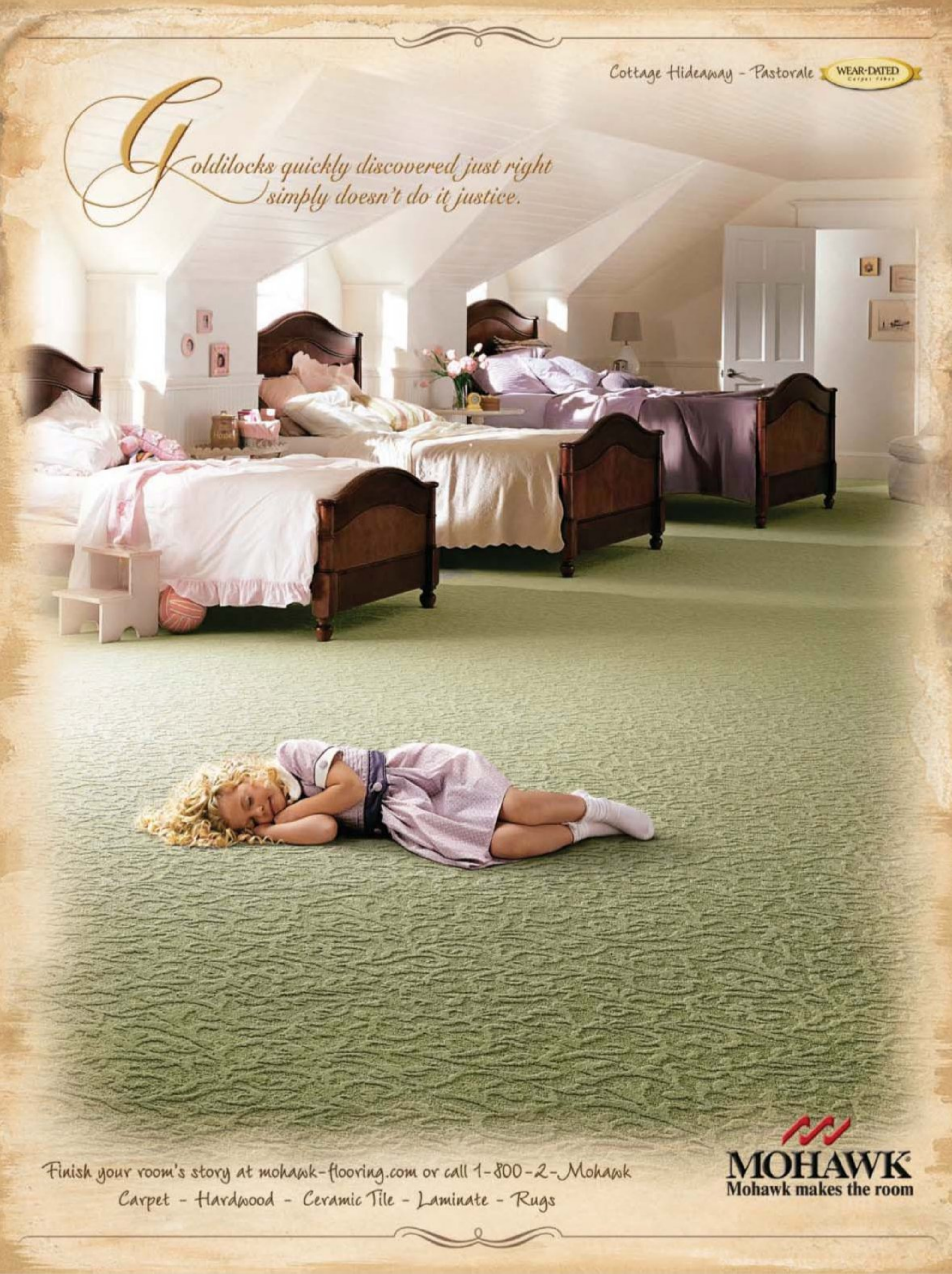
Married to *Curb Your Enthusiasm* creator Larry David, she's made a name for herself in the green movement as a producer of the Academy Award–winning documentary *An Inconvenient Truth* and as the founder of *StopGlobalWarming.org*, a site that aims to organize concerned citizens and generate a force for political change.

While David understands consumers typically have to spend more for environmentally friendly alternatives, she knows individual investments now can forge a better future for all. "It doesn't take much to see that everyone, rich and poor, will suffer in the long run," she says. "The ice caps are melting; the sea levels are rising. The evidence is clear that we can't afford not to do something." Here are a few steps she recommends—most of them fairly simple:

1 **RESEARCH BEFORE YOU BUY.** "You can trust some certifications, like Energy Star appliances," David says, but read labels. Some companies try to "greenwash" their image to look more eco-friendly than they really are.

2 **A BRIGHT IDEA FOR LIGHTBULBS.** "If every household changed five regular lightbulbs to compact fluorescent bulbs," she says, "it would be the equivalent of taking 8 million cars off the road a year. That's no sacrifice to homeowners and a huge gain for the environment."

3 **TURN OFF AND UNPLUG.** "Pull chargers from the wall and turn your computers off when you're not using them," David says. TVs, computers—almost anything with a built-in clock—continue to draw a current even when they're ostensibly off. To make cutting the power easier, plug all the computer equipment into a single outlet strip, then just flip the switch on the strip. Presto! Everything's unplugged.


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WASTE NOT. Take advantage of your local recycling program, David urges. Also, get used to reusing. Drink out of a ceramic or travel mug at work, and buy cloth grocery bags.



PHOTOGRAPH: HOMECREST CABINETRY

5 RUN A SMART REFRIGERATOR. Don't let ice accumulate in a manual-defrost freezer. "Defrosting makes it work more efficiently," David says. Freezers also use less energy when they're full; frozen items insulate each other. The fridge should be full, too, but with space for air to circulate.

6 DRY THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY. "Hang things to dry when you can," David says. When you can't, clean your dryer filter frequently to keep the appliance at peak efficiency.

7 CUT YOUR HOT-WATER DEMAND. "Install low-flow shower-heads," she says. By law, new showerheads must flow at 2.5 gallons a minute, tops. If yours is old, replace it.

8 OPTIMIZE YOUR HOT-WATER SUPPLY. "Insulate your water heater," David says, "or replace it with a tankless model." Wrapping the tank is a DIY option for electric models, but for gas, the flame dictates extreme caution. A tankless heater produces an essentially endless supply of hot water but not in enough volume for two showers and a washing machine at the same time. In high-use households, install more than one.

9 HEAT AND COOL WISELY. "Winterize and insulate your home," David says. "Adjust the thermostat down in winter and up in summer, and install double-pane windows." These moves don't just curtail energy use; they save money, too.

10 TAKE YOUR ECO-FRIENDLINESS OUTSIDE. "Plant trees and stop using leaf blowers," she says. Rakes and brooms don't burn fossil fuels and are much quieter than leaf blowers.

11 LET THE DISHWASHER DO ITS THING. "Don't pre-rinse dishes," David says. Dishwashers actually rinse before they start washing, with hotter water than you're likely to use. Just scrape off big pieces of food before loading. Also, run only full loads to maximize energy efficiency. ■



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[our favorite] tool storage

WRITTEN BY KELLI ACCIARDO



HOLD EVERYTHING

Separating nails from screws is a no-brainer with this four-level stainless steel "lunch box" from Garrett Wade. Each level is about $5\frac{1}{4} \times 2$ inches. $47. 800-221-2942; *www.garrettwade.com.*



ROLL ALONG

Kobalt's Ball-Bearing tool chest and cabinet can stand alone or be stacked, as shown, into one taller, rolling device. A security lock and nonskid drawer liners keep tools in place. 5-drawer chest (above), $269; 6-drawer rolling cabinet (below), $379. 800-890-5932; *www.lowes.com.*



IN FULL VIEW

Clear pull-out drawers make it easy to find what you need in the $7\frac{1}{4}$x10-inch Stow 'N Go Pro-Rack Organizer from Plano Molding. $15. 800-226-9868; *www.planomolding.com.*



PRETTY TOUGH

The deluxe tool belt in purple suede from Be Jane is as sturdy as the guys' version. $50. 877-623-5263; *www.bejane.com.*



HIDDEN HARDWARE

No workshop? No problem. This drop-down work bench can fit in even the smallest spaces. It opens to 46½×26½ inches and is only 5 inches deep when closed. $129. 800-761-5222; *www.stacksandstacks.com.*



CARRY ALL

You'll find a place for everything in Husky's sturdy and affordable Bucket Jockey. It has 62 storage pockets, plus a drill holster. $17. 866-340-3912; *www.homedepot.com.*



STUCK ON YOU

Lee Valley Tools merges organization and good looks with their magnetic tool holders. $4.50 each. 800-871-8158; *www.leevalley.com.*



IN THE BAG

Stanley's Fat Max 18-inch open tote bag is perfect for storing all of your tools. A comfortable, rubber-grip handle and shoulder strap make carrying the load less of a hassle, too. $35. 800-782-6539; *www.stanleytools.com.* ■

[unclutter] your garden shed

WRITTEN BY MERVYN KAUFMAN



PHOTOGRAPHS: ANDREA RUGG

GETTING STARTED

- Get everything out. Clear off shelves; remove items from hooks and nails; pull out the tools and cartons that have been gathering dust on the floor.
- Inspect and sort as you clear; make separate piles of gardening essentials, items that are damaged beyond repair and those you know you'll never use again.
- Toss what's no longer usable and give away any serviceable items you no longer need.
- Clean the shed's floor and interior walls thoroughly; use a long-handled scrub brush, a heavy-duty sponge and a solution of household cleaner and warm water.
- Let the shed dry completely before installing new hooks, nails, shelving or storage systems.

YOUR GARDEN SHED CAN ACCUMULATE AS MUCH clutter as any other storage space. When the time comes to clean it out, create a plan so that when you put everything back, the most-used items are highly visible and accessible. While the shed shown here is generously proportioned, what makes it well organized is the fact that you can see nearly everything in it right away. Wall-hung storage systems use shelves for storing small items, as well as hooks that can be positioned where needed to hold tools. Long tables create a surface wide and deep enough for potting plants. Flowerpots and an open crate containing fertilizer, peat moss and potting soil fit below—small items in front, large ones in back. Operable windows that let in light and air are always a nice perk in a shed.

➤



SMART SOLUTIONS

Not everyone has a big, beautiful shed to dedicate to gardening, but these clever storage ideas can work in virtually any space.

1 **HEIGHT MAKES RIGHT** Mount a shelf high off the floor, way out of the reach of children, for storing liquid fertilizer and any toxic chemicals. Be sure to position containers so all labels are easy to read.

2 **ACCESSIBLE HANG-UPS** Whether you install hooks, nails or a wall-mounted storage system, keep long-handled tools off the floor, where they may be tripped on or knocked over.

3 **BRACED FOR ACTION** Keep garden stakes of various heights and shapes in one place, preferably in a container where their height is evident and there's never a need to search in dark corners to find them.

4 **STACKABLE INVENTORY** Organize flowerpots and other containers by size so you know what you have when you need it. Stack saucers and drainage dishes the same way so you can readily find matches when you've selected the pots you want.

>> PRODUCT PICKS



Rubbermaid FastTrack 30-inch mesh basket. $30. *www.homedepot.com.*



Gardening Tools Organizer, $200 for 22-piece system. 800-761-5222; *www.stacksandstacks.com.*



Schulte's six-piece Grid Accessory Pack, $80; 48×23-inch grid, $30. 800-669-3225; *www.schultestorage.com.* ■


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[color cues] spring green

WRITTEN BY GINEVRA PYLANT
PHOTOGRAPH BY JOEY DELEO



From a Granny Smith apple to a soft patch of grass, green connects us to our natural surroundings and provides us with a versatile palette. "It's inviting for foyers, appetizing for kitchens and calming for bedrooms," says Doty Horn, director of color and design at Benjamin Moore. For a fresh approach, pair contrasting greens: Use a light shade as a neutral and a dark shade as a bold accent. Or mix one shade with earthy browns. ➤

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



I want a floor that reminds me of my sweet Grandmother's cozy dining room (updated a little, of course, by her favorite Granddaughter).
Try on a floor at shawfloors.com
© 2007 Shaw
Laminate: Costa Rica
Area Rug: Gee's Bend from Kathy Ireland
What do you want your floor to be?
Shaw
Where Great Floors Begin
Carpet | Area Rugs | Ceramic | Hardwood | Laminate
shawfloors.com



SPRUCE IT UP

With its sculptural base and Green Eucalyptus silk shades, the Agnes & Hoss Roots chandelier instantly transforms a frumpy foyer or dull dining room. $865. 888-222-4410; *www.2modern.com.*



"I love green. It's one of those rare colors that crosses all lines—forest-green looks preppy and conservative, while lime-green looks modern and funky."
—Designer Todd Oldham

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

Guatemalan artisans handcraft each Transglass piece from recycled wine and beer bottles. From $32. 888-898-6422; *www.unicahome.com.*





TONE ON TONE

The verdant cushions on the Polder sofa are accented with horn and bamboo buttons. $8,750 for 115$\frac{1}{4}$-inch-long size. 866-781-9494; *www.velocityartanddesign.com.*

OTTOMAN EMPIRE

Todd Oldham's Emerald ottoman can be customized with one of 133 fabrics, including Flair in Sage, shown. 18×34 inches. $349. *www.la-z-boy.com.*



FIELD OF DREAMS

Lay your head on these hand-embroidered wool pillows from Judy Ross. Clover (middle) and Procession patterns both come in Spring Green and Cream, 18 inches square. $190 each. 212-842-1705; *www.judyrosstextiles.com.* ■

[save or splurge]
bathroom sinks

WRITTEN BY LINDSAY DAMAST



$1,150

POT OF GOLD
Formed using traditional sand-casting methods, Stone Forest's Papillon sink in Golden Bronze is patinaed and waxed by hand to enrich and protect its natural luster. 888-682-2987; *www.stoneforest.com.*



$2,695

FREE FLOWING
The Liberum vessel by Porcher, made of hand-finished cast bronze, adds an elegant accent with its asymmetrical lip and oblong shape. 800-359-3261; *www.porcher-us.com.*



$299

SAPPHIRE SINK
The Blue Marble tempered glass basin by AquaBrass will lend a splash of color to any vanity. 800-867-8484; *www.aquabrass.com.*



$1,395

THE DEEP BLUE
Subtle gradations of color make Bear Creek Glass' hand-blown Classic bowl in Blue Luster seem to ripple with ocean waves. 205-324-9339; *www.bearcreekglass.com.*



$290

STREAMLINED STYLE

The geometric shape of MTI's Metro 4 acrylic sink offers a modern alternative to the basic white bowl, with a scratch- and stain-resistant finish. 800-783-8827; *www.mtiwhirlpools.com.*



$745

SIMPLY ELEGANT

Sharp angles, a shallow basin and a soft Biscuit hue make the Purist Wading Pool lavatory by Kohler a contemporary centerpiece for the bathroom. 800-456-4537; *www.us.kohler.com.*



$343

DARK ARTS
Pegasus' Rectangle Boat vessel in Shanxi Black granite makes a bold statement with obtuse angles and slanted sides. 800-553-3199; *www.homedepot.com.*



$780

BLACK BEAUTY
The oblique shape of Adagio's GR-003 vessel in Absolute Black granite melds peaked angles and soft curves. 877-988-2297; *www.adagiosinks.com.*



$875

NATURAL BEAUTY
Add an earthy touch to the bathroom with the Aeri AELM55N birchwood basin by Whitehaus Collection. 800-527-6690; *www.whitehauscollection.com.*



$3,590

SQUARED AWAY
The boxy corners of Image's Quadra sink are offset by interior curves and the warm tones of African iroko wood. 800-990-5539; *www.pscbath.com.*



$895

CRACKLE THAT POPS
Before Glasco Designs' Fusion vessel is tempered, a decorative pattern is imprinted between two layers of glass to create a cracked, smoked appearance. 425-242-1300; *www.glascodesign.com.*



$1,700

ASIAN INFLUENCE
Linkasink's Black Cloisonné vessel is a modern spin on the ancient Chinese technique of fusing wire and powdered glass to a copper bowl. 866-395-8377; *www.linkasink.com.*



$635

ON THE ROCKS

Like a pebble sculpted over time by a running stream, Villeroy & Boch's Pure Stone ceramic basin has smooth edges and a rounded exterior. 877-505-5350; *www.villeroy-boch.com.*



$1,100

MAKE AN IMPRESSION

Set the ceramic Ciottolo 032250 basin by Duravit on your vanity for a rock-solid way to wash up. 888-387-2848; *www.duravit.us.* ■

[curb appeal]

Contemporary colors transform a home into a modern storybook cottage

WRITTEN BY TANJA KERN



PHOTOGRAPH: ALCOA

A bold shot of color and contrasting trim helps turn this Gothic Revival–influenced house into a real head-turner.

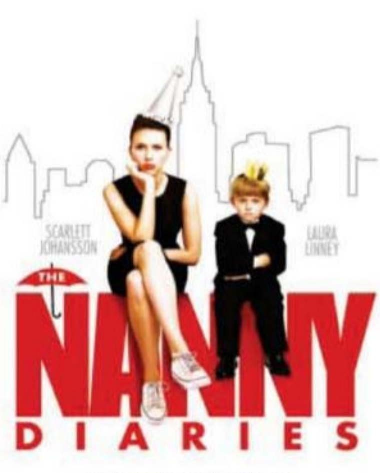
STYLE NOTES

- Steep vertical elements, a dramatically peaked roof and an asymmetrical design give this cottage Gothic Revival charm.
- A lush evergreen hue combined with sand-colored trim grabs attention and helps define the home's clean lines.
- Clapboard siding is reminiscent of classic New England houses.
- Assorted window shapes, including the Romanesque Revival window in the gable, contribute to the home's hybrid look. Wide window casings help unify the various styles.
- A generous front porch provides homeowners with a protected niche for spending time outdoors.

IN THE DETAILS

- **FLOWER POWER** Low-lying flowering shrubs and perennials, like tulips, create a charming landscape.
- **EASY ELEGANCE** Exterior accents, such as lighting and house numbers, have coordinating brass finishes. A brass kickplate adds a touch of sophistication to the navy blue front door.
- **SIMPLE SOLUTION** Concrete is usually too bland and utilitarian, but with this vibrant facade it works well and provides a low-maintenance, cost-effective surface for the walkway, stairs and front porch.
- **SEASONAL SHOWCASE** A large garden pot by the front door can be replanted to reflect changing seasons.
- **BENCH MARKS** Latticework detailing on the bench echoes the home's cottage influence.


The Nanny Diaries
&
CaesarStone
Jerusalem Sands – No. 4250


SCARLETT JOHANSSON
LAURA LINNEY
THE
NANNY
DIARIES

GET THE LOOK



DIGITAL ASSETS
Deltana brass house numbers. $11 for 4-inch size. 800-709-3494; *www.designerhardware.com.*



SHINE ON
Montclair Mission small exterior sconce. $78. 800-801-2207; *www.lightinguniverse.com.*



LETTER SPACE
Horizontal Mailbox. $69. 800-910-9836; *www.restorationhardware.com.*



BIG BOWL
Garden Treasures Sevilla Planter in Bronze; 18 inches high. $20. 800-445-6937; *www.lowes.com.*



OPEN SESAME
Newport fiberglass door with veranda glass. From $445. 800-732-2499; *www.peachtreedoor.com.* ■


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[woman's day specials store]

closet organizers

Maximize your storage space for under $20



<< EXTENDABLES

Make the most of wasted space in your closet with these handy organizers. Add instant shelves and cubbies by adjusting the organizer's straps to your desired length and looping its hooks over the rod. Each unit is 20" W × 12 1/2" D × 16" H, with 60" adjustable straps. Choose from the 3-Shelf Adjustable Sweater Organizer **(No. 1641A)** and the 9-Pocket Adjustable Accessory/Shoe Organizer **(No. 1641B)**. Only $19.95 each!



SIX-SHELF SPINNING ORGANIZER >>

This multifunction space saver has six shelves and 24 roomy mesh pockets to help you find accessories in a pinch. Simply hook the unit over your closet rod and spin it with a light touch to access pockets on all three sides. Measures 12" W × 12" D × 52" L. **(No. 1641C)** Only $19.95!



PHOTOGRAPHS: DAVID LAWRENCE

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[before & after]

A dark, raw space becomes a light-filled housetop office

WRITTEN BY MERVYN KAUFMAN



PHOTOGRAPHS: SUSAN SEUBERT

BEFORE: The steep slope of the roof left little usable floor space, but was just right for installing skylights.

AFTER: With blond wood and light finishes, the new office is both efficient and inviting.

PROBLEM: The birth of his first child meant Bert Hansen, owner of Renovation Innovations in Portland, Oregon, needed to move his office from a bedroom to the raw 25×32-foot attic in his home. The steep slope of the roof allowed for only 350 square feet of floor space. And shallow dormer windows let in only splotches of natural light.

SOLUTION: Bert sought help from his Portland colleague, architect Gabriel Small, who created a comfortable office that is neat, spare and in total contrast to the late-Victorian look of the rest of the 1906 house. Small had four 2×4-foot skylights cut into the roof. One is operable, which, with the two existing dormer windows, not only brings in sunlight but also increases air circulation on warm days.

The colleagues designed custom cabinetry to line the attic's knee walls and make the most of the space. Bert listed his needs, and Small created cupboards, shelving and a closet storage accordingly. The centerpiece, a steel-reinforced cherry plywood desk, matches the light cabinetry. ■

FINISHING TOUCHES

- **ALL THE TRIM** Architect Gabriel Small placed horizontal strips of cherry throughout the attic to anchor the space and provide subtle contrasts to the overall light tone.
- **LIGHT MAKES RIGHT** Hollow beams of boxed-in cherry plywood are troughs for indirect halogen lighting. One beam also supports a pendant lamp over the desk. Sconces beside each dormer add light as well.
- **SURFACE INTEREST** The desk is finished with two coats of epoxy for super toughness; storage cabinets beneath the skylights are topped with Baltic birch plywood. Wool carpeting in a neutral tone covers the floor.

SEE SOURCES FOR DETAILS


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•Brass Handrails
•Cast Scroll Tread Ends
•"Antique" Baked Finish
-- Many More Available --
Installation Video featuring "The Furniture Guys"

[shopping for] decking

WRITTEN BY JOE HURST-WAJSZCZUK



WHEN PLANNING A NEW DECK, IT'S crucial that you select materials that will stand the test of time. For many, the hardest part of building a deck is choosing which material to use. Today, homeowners have many more choices than even a few years ago. However, once you understand what's out there, the selection process isn't that difficult. To make it less bewildering, we've boiled down the bulk of what's available so you can choose what's best for your home.

WOOD

Wood still accounts for nearly 80 percent of all the decks built today, and for good reason. Treated wood is readily available in every lumberyard and home center, and at least initially, costs less than the other decking materials. (Regardless of what's on top, most deck frames are built from treated southern pine because of its winning combination of strength, rot resistance and low cost.)

To protect decking from termites and decay, wood was once impregnated with chromated copper arsenate (CCA). This was found to be carcinogenic and, when the EPA banned it in 2003, manufacturers switched to arsenic-free preservative treatments, such as copper azole (CA) and alkaline copper quarternary (ACQ). These new chemicals don't affect the performance or appearance of wood (freshly treated boards still have a greenish tinge) and are safer for people.

ABOVE: Plastic and vinyl decking, such as Eon, avoid the maintenance issues of wood and is fully recyclable. *www.eonoutdoor.com.*

It's worth pointing out that preservatives don't prevent all possible problems. Rain and sunlight conspire to create a host of damage, such as swelling, shrinking, warping and splitting. To prevent premature aging and keep your deck looking its best, you'll need to clean and protect the wood with a clear water-repellent sealer or semi-transparent deck stain about once a year.



ABOVE: Western red cedar decking is beautiful, lightweight and easy to work with; plus, it's naturally resistant to insects and harsh weather. *www.wrcla.org.*

Because it's milled from fast-growing trees, standard-grade pressure-treated pine can appear knotty, and may move or split as it dries out. For a richer look, you can spend more on a higher grade or step up to redwood or cedar. Forest Stewardship Council–certified lumber (lumber legally harvested that comes from environmentally responsible forests) is available; however, shipping costs make this material expensive for East coast residents. Cedar and redwood also require regular cleaning and sealing and will eventually fade to a silvery gray.

Ipe, an imported hardwood that's naturally resistant to rot and insect damage, is a fairly new decking option. Like cedar and redwood, the freshly sawn reddish brown boards will fade, but unlike its domestic competition, ipe does not require annual sealing.

COMPOSITES

In the 1990s, the Trex company combined wood fiber and plastic for a new decking material. This innovative combination offers the longevity of plastic in a product that looks and works like wood. Today, wood/plastic composites dominate the low-maintenance decking market; at last count there were more than 60 brands, all offering their own assortment of colors and textures.

Based on their chemical make-up, composites fall into two sub-categories: polyethylene composites and polypropylene composites. Polyethylene composites (such as ChoiceDek, TimberTech and Trex) dominate the market. These boards feel solid underfoot, but the softer plastic means joists must be spaced closer than they are with wood. This makes it difficult to replace wood with composite on an old deck. On the plus side, builders can take advantage of the boards'

flexibility and create curves that would be impossible with wood.

Polypropylene composites (such as CrossTimbers and CorrectDeck) are made with a stiffer plastic, so boards can span longer distances. These manufacturers can offer hollow boards that weigh less. The disadvantage of hollow boards is that concealing exposed ends and making sure that ripped edges are properly reinforced requires extra effort.

The biggest problem with composites is their price. The material cost for a composite deck runs from two to five times more than pressure-treated wood. However, the annual maintenance costs for wood—cleaning, staining, sealing—can offset the higher initial price of a composite in less than five years, especially if you plan on hiring a pro to build your deck. Builders prefer working with composites because the lack of defects makes for a faster, cleaner job. The clips, brackets and precut parts that come with composite rail systems make it possible to install an 8-foot railing section in minutes. By saving time, composite decks cost less to build. So, synthetic decks may still cost 25 to 50 percent more, but the money goes underfoot rather than in a builder's pocket. And the added value of a maintenance-free deck may help when it's time to sell.

VINYL AND OTHER PLASTICS

Wood-free plastic planks eliminate the inherent disadvantages of wood, such as mold and moisture-related problems. Plastic decking requires even less maintenance than composites; most manufacturers recommend little more than an occasional rinsing with a garden hose. While some vinyl decking products look more like siding, most of the other wood-free products—Bear Board, Dek Lock—resemble composites. A few, like Eon and Procell, look like real wood.

The installation of plastic planks varies widely. Vinyl isn't difficult to cut, but installation requires special clips, caps and detail pieces, while composites can be cut and installed much like wood, although some offer special fasteners.

ALUMINUM

This heavy-gauge metal decking may be the most expensive option, but for good reason. Aluminum offers advantages that you can't find in the other choices. It's maintenance-free, lightweight (and ideal for roof-top decks). The interlocking panels create a gutter system that channel water away, and it can serve as a roof for usable space below.

Installing aluminum decking imposes some design limitations. It also requires different tools and nonferrous metal-cutting blades. Compared to wood, cutting metal is noisy and slow. The best way to minimize the noise (and expense) of offcuts is to design your deck's frame to fit full-length panels. ➤

information
at your fingertips

Dial up or log on for product information from the following manufacturers:

Alloc
1-877-DO Alloc
www.alloc.com

American Lighting Association
800-BRIGHTIDEAS
www.americanlighting assoc.com

Andersen Windows
800-426-4261, Ext.1100

Armstrong Floor Products
www.armstrong.com
www.miyoflooring.com

Asko
800-898-1879
www.askousa.com

Avonite
www.avonitesurfaces.com

BEHR Paints
800-854-0133, Ext. 2
www.behr.com

Bosch Household Products
800-944-2904

Broan
800-692-7626

Brock Deck Systems
800-488-5245
www.royalcrownltd.com

Budget Blinds
866-300-9752

Cosentino Silestone
800-291-1311
www.silestone.com

Dacor
800-793-0093
www.dacor.com

DecKorators
800-332-5724
www.deckorators.com

Delta Faucet Company
800-345-DELTA (3358)
www.deltafaucet.com

Eldorado Stone
www.eldoradostone.com

Elkay
www.elkayusa.com

Eon® Decking
866-DIAL-EON
www.eonoutdoor.com

Estroven
800-722-3476
www.estroven.com

EverGrain Decking by Epoch
800-405-0546
www.evergrain.com

Houzer Sinks by Enex
800-880-ENEX
www.HouzerSink.com

In-Sink-Erator
800-558-5712
www.insinkerator.com

Jeld Wen
www.jeld-wen.com

John Boos
888-431-2667
www.johnboos.com

KitchenAid
800-422-1230
www.kitchenaid.com

KraftMaid Cabinetry
800-469-1990
www.kraftmaid.com
www.superkitchens.com

LG Hi-Macs
866-LG HI-MACS
www.lgvolcanics.com

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www.bathworld.com

Lutron
877-2LUTRON
www.lutron.com

Miele
888-346-4353
www.miele.com

Minwax
www.minwax.com

Moen
800-BUY-MOEN
www.moen.com

Mohawk Carpet
800-2-MOHAWK
www.mohawkflooring.com

Mouser Custom Cabinetry
800-345-7537
www.mousercc.com

Panasonic Ventilation Fans
866-292-7292
www.panasonic.com/building

Pittsburgh Corning
800-624-2120
www.pittsburgh corning.com

Runtal Radiators
800-526-2621
www.runtalnorth america.com

Sharp Electronics
800-BE-SHARP
www.sharpusa.com /microwavedrawer

Shaw
800-441-7429
www.shawfloors.com

Sloan Flushmate
866-873-1846
www.flushmate.com

Sub-Zero
800-444-7820
www.subzero.com

The Iron Shop
www.theironshop.com

Thermador
800-656-9226
www.thermador.com

TimberTech
800-307-7780
www.timbertech.com

True Value Paint
800-323-7545
www.truevaluepaint.com

Viking Range Corporation
888-845-4641
www.vikingrange.com

Wicker Warehouse
www.wickerwarehouse.com

Wolf Appliances
800-332-1405
www.wolfappliance.com

York
800-910-YORK
www.yorkupg.com

DECK BOARDS, SIDE BY SIDE

	COST PER SQ. FT.	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES	AVERAGE LIFESPAN
PRESSURE-TREATED WOOD	$2-4	Economical; Readily available; Easy to work with; Can be stained	Annual maintenance recommended; Boards may split or warp	15 years
CEDAR, REDWOOD	$3-6	Naturally insect and rot resistant; Easy to work with; Can be stained	Annual maintenance recommended; Sapwood not as resistant as heartwood	15-20 years
IPE	$5	Little to no maintenance; Naturally insect and rot resistant	Predrilling required	40 years
COMPOSITES	$4-6	Little maintenance; Some made from recycled plastics; Boards can be bent around curves	Some require closer joist spacing; Some look "plasticy"; Heavier than wood	10-25 years (warranties vary)
VINYL AND OTHER 100% PLASTICS	$5-7	Little maintenance; Lightweight products easier to handle	Some products do not resemble wood; Some sound "hollow" when walked on	20 years (warranties vary)
ALUMINUM	$7	No maintenance; Creates roof and deck; Fireproof	Expensive; Difficult to design custom-shaped decks	Lifetime (warranties vary)



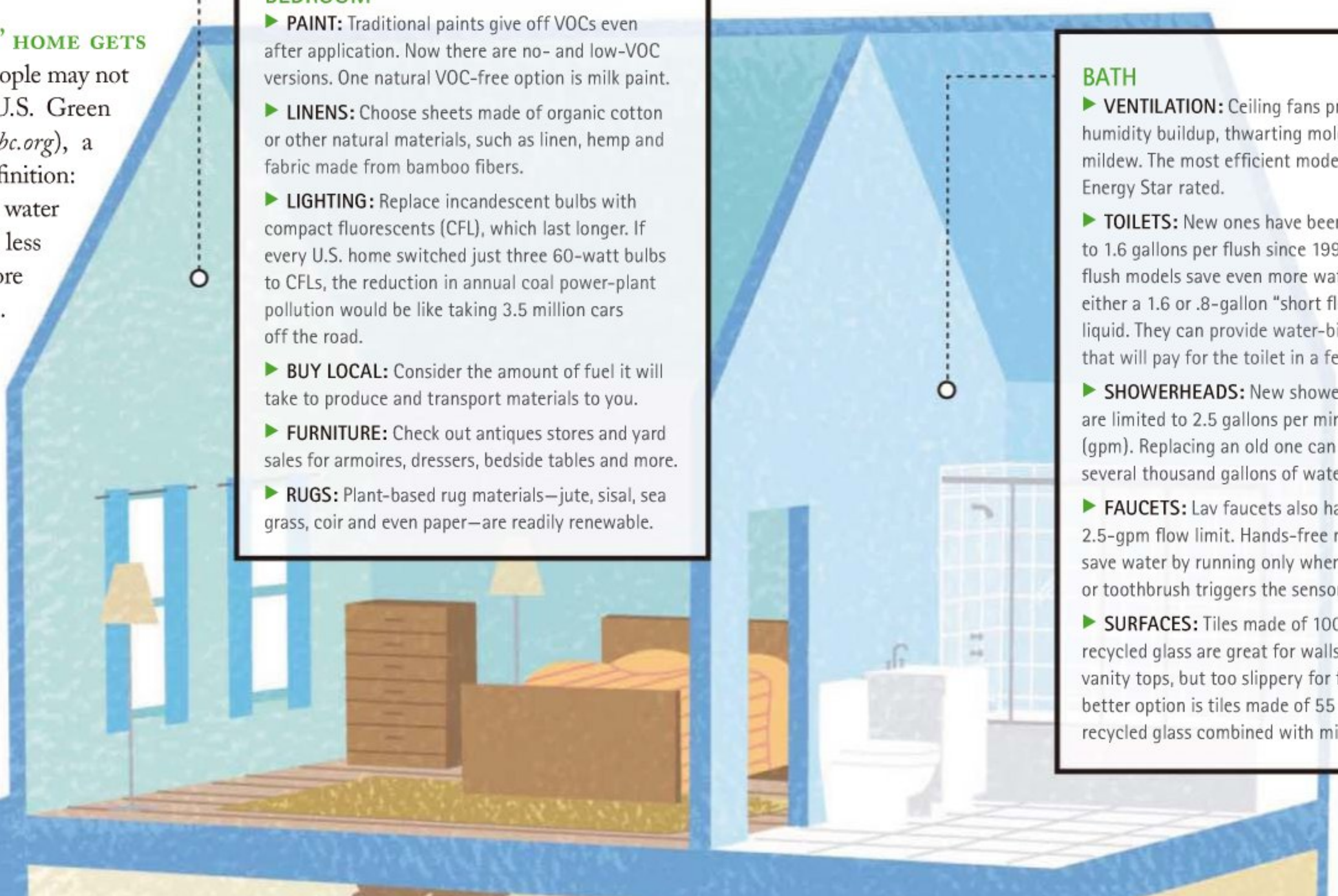
Composite decking is as easy to work with as wood, but the flexibility of some brands, like Trex, lets builders create more curves. *www.trex.com.* ■

[green house]

Create a better environment for you—and the planet

WRITTEN BY BILL PARTSCH
ILLUSTRATIONS BY NATE PADAVICK

THE NOTION OF A "GREEN" HOME GETS bandied about so much that people may not grasp its many facets. The U.S. Green Building Council (*www.usgbc.org*), a nonprofit group, offers this definition: A green home uses less energy, water and natural resources; creates less waste; and is healthier and more comfortable for the occupants. "You'll discover 90 percent of green building opportunities in the very early stages of a project," says Austin, Texas–based architect Peter Pfeiffer, FAIA. "These opportunities include situating windows for optimum heating and cooling, planting shade trees and more." Indeed, there are myriad ways to create a better home environment. Here's how:

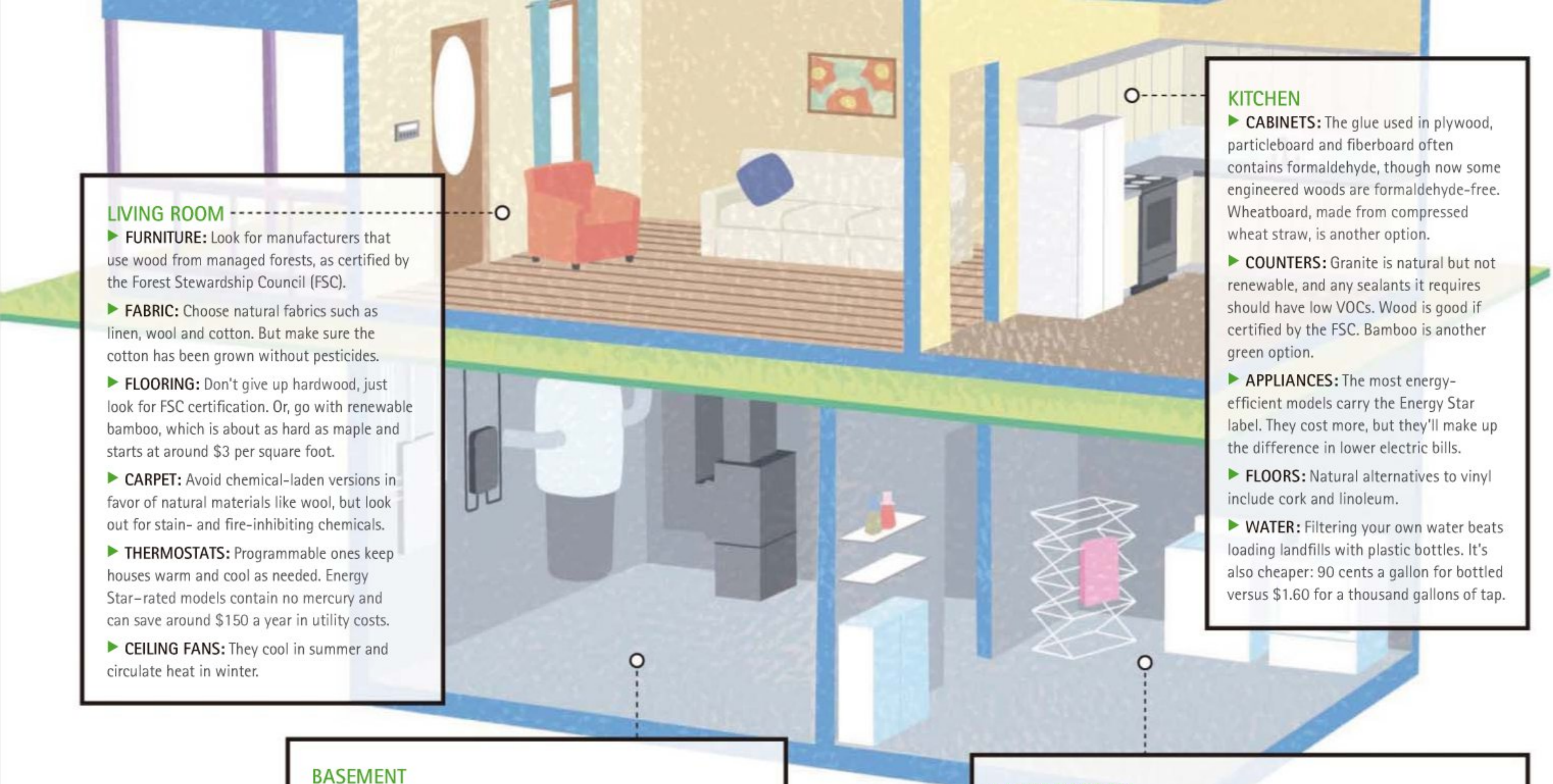


BEDROOM

- **PAINT:** Traditional paints give off VOCs even after application. Now there are no- and low-VOC versions. One natural VOC-free option is milk paint.
- **LINENS:** Choose sheets made of organic cotton or other natural materials, such as linen, hemp and fabric made from bamboo fibers.
- **LIGHTING:** Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents (CFL), which last longer. If every U.S. home switched just three 60-watt bulbs to CFLs, the reduction in annual coal power-plant pollution would be like taking 3.5 million cars off the road.
- **BUY LOCAL:** Consider the amount of fuel it will take to produce and transport materials to you.
- **FURNITURE:** Check out antiques stores and yard sales for armoires, dressers, bedside tables and more.
- **RUGS:** Plant-based rug materials—jute, sisal, sea grass, coir and even paper—are readily renewable.

BATH

- **VENTILATION:** Ceiling fans prevent humidity buildup, thwarting mold and mildew. The most efficient models are Energy Star rated.
- **TOILETS:** New ones have been limited to 1.6 gallons per flush since 1994. Dual-flush models save even more water, with either a 1.6 or .8-gallon "short flush" for liquid. They can provide water-bill savings that will pay for the toilet in a few years.
- **SHOWERHEADS:** New showerheads are limited to 2.5 gallons per minute (gpm). Replacing an old one can save several thousand gallons of water a year.
- **FAUCETS:** Lav faucets also have a 2.5-gpm flow limit. Hands-free models save water by running only when a hand or toothbrush triggers the sensor.
- **SURFACES:** Tiles made of 100 percent recycled glass are great for walls and vanity tops, but too slippery for floors. A better option is tiles made of 55 percent recycled glass combined with minerals.



LIVING ROOM

- **FURNITURE:** Look for manufacturers that use wood from managed forests, as certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).
- **FABRIC:** Choose natural fabrics such as linen, wool and cotton. But make sure the cotton has been grown without pesticides.
- **FLOORING:** Don't give up hardwood, just look for FSC certification. Or, go with renewable bamboo, which is about as hard as maple and starts at around $3 per square foot.
- **CARPET:** Avoid chemical-laden versions in favor of natural materials like wool, but look out for stain- and fire-inhibiting chemicals.
- **THERMOSTATS:** Programmable ones keep houses warm and cool as needed. Energy Star–rated models contain no mercury and can save around $150 a year in utility costs.
- **CEILING FANS:** They cool in summer and circulate heat in winter.

KITCHEN

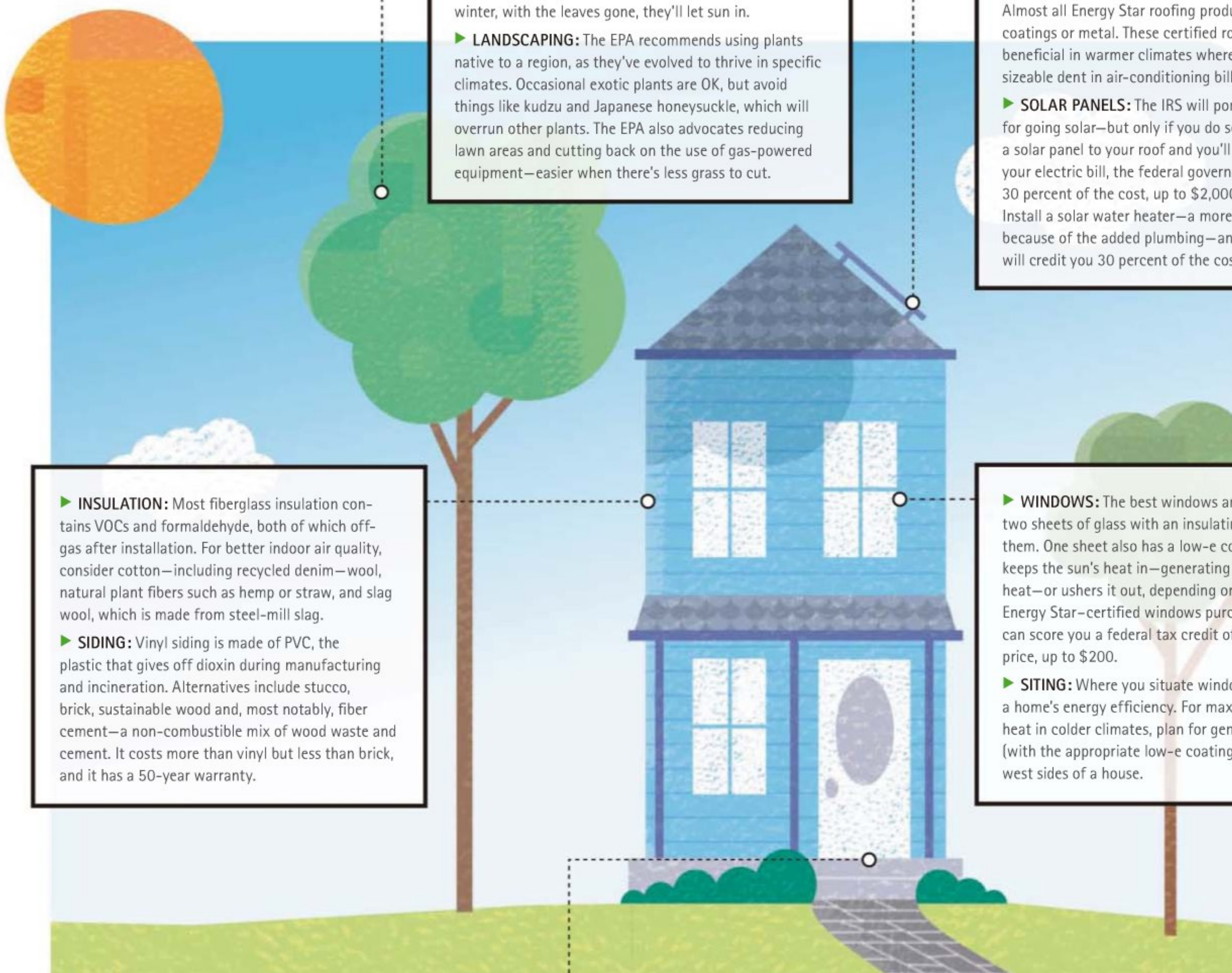
- **CABINETS:** The glue used in plywood, particleboard and fiberboard often contains formaldehyde, though now some engineered woods are formaldehyde-free. Wheatboard, made from compressed wheat straw, is another option.
- **COUNTERS:** Granite is natural but not renewable, and any sealants it requires should have low VOCs. Wood is good if certified by the FSC. Bamboo is another green option.
- **APPLIANCES:** The most energy-efficient models carry the Energy Star label. They cost more, but they'll make up the difference in lower electric bills.
- **FLOORS:** Natural alternatives to vinyl include cork and linoleum.
- **WATER:** Filtering your own water beats loading landfills with plastic bottles. It's also cheaper: 90 cents a gallon for bottled versus $1.60 for a thousand gallons of tap.

BASEMENT

- **UTILITY CHOICES:** In many states, homeowners can get solar, wind and other nonpolluting sources of energy from their local utility. The U.S. Department of Energy keeps tabs on which utilities offer alternatives (*www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower*).
- **WATER HEATER:** Tankless water heaters provide hot water on demand. But one unit only has enough for two simultaneous activities. For example, two showers or a shower and a dishwasher.
- **HEAT PUMP:** A geothermal heat pump transfers heat inside in cold weather and outside in warm weather. Although more expensive to install than air-fed, geothermal pumps should make up the cost difference in energy savings.
- **CENTRAL VACUUM:** Exhaust a system to the exterior so that all the contaminants you're removing don't wind up back in the house.

LAUNDRY ROOM

- **WASHER:** The Energy Star program rates washing machines (but not dryers). A new, certified washer can save up to $110 a year on utility bills.
- **DRYER:** Make sure they're completely ventilated outside via the shortest possible path. This reduces humidity, which, among other things, can lengthen drying time—and add to electric bills.
- **FULL LOADS:** Washers and dryers use the same amount of electricity whether they're half or fully loaded. For optimum energy usage, always run them full, but not overstuffed.
- **RACK OR ROD:** A drying rack or rod reduces dryer usage on days when clotheslines aren't an option. Even partial air drying followed by an abbreviated dryer session is a big energy saver.
- **CABINETS:** Recycle old kitchen cabinets here to store supplies.



▶ **TREES:** Adding deciduous trees near expansive windows protects houses from summer sun and reduces the need for air-conditioning by up to 30 percent. In the winter, with the leaves gone, they'll let sun in.

▶ **LANDSCAPING:** The EPA recommends using plants native to a region, as they've evolved to thrive in specific climates. Occasional exotic plants are OK, but avoid things like kudzu and Japanese honeysuckle, which will overrun other plants. The EPA also advocates reducing lawn areas and cutting back on the use of gas-powered equipment—easier when there's less grass to cut.

▶ **ROOFING:** Energy Star rates roofing materials for solar reflection. The best products are the ones that heat up the least and radiate less heat into a house. Almost all Energy Star roofing products are polymer coatings or metal. These certified roofs are especially beneficial in warmer climates where they can put a sizeable dent in air-conditioning bills.

▶ **SOLAR PANELS:** The IRS will pony up serious cash for going solar—but only if you do so before 2008. Add a solar panel to your roof and you'll not only reduce your electric bill, the federal government will also pay 30 percent of the cost, up to $2,000, come tax time. Install a solar water heater—a more daunting job because of the added plumbing—and the government will credit you 30 percent of the cost, up to $2,000.

▶ **INSULATION:** Most fiberglass insulation contains VOCs and formaldehyde, both of which off-gas after installation. For better indoor air quality, consider cotton—including recycled denim—wool, natural plant fibers such as hemp or straw, and slag wool, which is made from steel-mill slag.

▶ **SIDING:** Vinyl siding is made of PVC, the plastic that gives off dioxin during manufacturing and incineration. Alternatives include stucco, brick, sustainable wood and, most notably, fiber cement—a non-combustible mix of wood waste and cement. It costs more than vinyl but less than brick, and it has a 50-year warranty.

▶ **WINDOWS:** The best windows and skylights have two sheets of glass with an insulating gas between them. One sheet also has a low-e coating that either keeps the sun's heat in—generating passive solar heat—or ushers it out, depending on the climate. Energy Star–certified windows purchased before 2008 can score you a federal tax credit of 10 percent of the price, up to $200.

▶ **SITING:** Where you situate windows greatly affects a home's energy efficiency. For maximum passive solar heat in colder climates, plan for generous windows (with the appropriate low-e coating) on the south and west sides of a house.



DECK: Use composite building materials—made of wood fiber mixed with recycled plastic—or non-pressure-treated woods such as redwood or cedar. Composites are low-maintenance and free of knots, while redwood is dimensionally stable and visually striking. Both are free of the arsenic-laced chemical used in most pressure-treated lumber before 2004.

HARDSCAPE: Permeable concrete pavers allow rain water to infiltrate the ground, reducing the amount of contaminated storm water reaching rivers and lakes. With only sand between the pavers, paths built out of them can handle freezing and thawing without cracking.

GREEN WEBSITES

- **AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR AN ENERGY EFFICIENT ECONOMY:** *www.aceee.org*—The shortened online version of this group's "Consumer Guide to Home Energy Savings" highlights the best of the best Energy Star-rated appliances and heating and cooling systems.
- **THE NATIONAL ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION:** *www.arborday.org*—Find out why trees are good for your home and the environment and what trees will flourish where you live.
- **AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH:** *www.climatecrisis.net*—The award-winning documentary's Website has loads of information, tips and links.
- **ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY:** *www.eere.energy.gov*—News and information on alternative energy sources from the U.S. Department of Energy.
- **DATABASE OF STATE INCENTIVES FOR RENEWABLES AND EFFICIENCY** *www.dsireusa.org*—Check here to find out if your local government or utilities will help defray the up-front costs of energy-effficient heating and cooling.
- **GREENGUARD ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE:** *www.greenguard.org*—Search the extensive database of products this group has certified as promoting healthy indoor air quality.
- **LOCALHARVEST:** *www.localharvest.org*—A database of local family farms and farmer's markets. It also explains why buying local is key.
- **NATIVE ENERGY:** *www.nativeenergy.com*—Want to help the environment but not quite ready to sweat the details? This site, run by a Native American energy company, lets you buy "offsets," which are contributions toward construction of clean energy sources.
- **NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL:** *www.nrdc.org*—This group provides info on a wide range of environmental topics. Stay up to speed on the latest eco threats and triumphs.
- **SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION:** *www.seia.org*—Click "Learn More" to get information about the various manifestations of solar power—from charging portable electronics to powering businesses.
- **U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL:** *www.usgbc.org*—Read up on the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program and the five environmental areas it covers: sustainable sites, water savings, energy efficiency, materials and indoor air quality.

TERMS OF ENVIRONMENT

- **CARBON:** The shorthand name given to carbon dioxide, the most prominent global-warming gas.
- **CFL:** Not to be confused with Canadian football, this is the abbreviation for compact fluorescent lightbulb.
- **DOE:** The U.S. Department of Energy, a cabinet-level department of the federal government.
- **ENERGY STAR:** A joint program of the EPA and DOE that examines energy efficiency in a range of household products. The top 25 percent receive the Energy Star label.
- **EPA:** The Environmental Protection Agency, a department of the federal government created in 1970.
- **FORMALDEHYDE:** A chemical the EPA labels carcinogenic; it off-gasses from certain construction materials.
- **FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL:** The FSC is a nonprofit group that certifies trees that have been responsibly harvested.
- **GEOTHERMAL:** An energy source that uses constant underground temperatures to moderate indoor temperatures.
- **GREEN:** An umbrella term for products and lifestyles promoting, among other things, energy efficiency, sustainable materials and lower pollution levels indoors and out, all in an attempt to curtail global warming and improve the environment.
- **LEED:** Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, a rating system developed by the nonprofit U.S. Green Building Council to encourage and certify buildings as energy efficient, sustainable and healthy.
- **OFF-GASSING:** The release of gases added or generated during manufacturing of a material. Environmental groups say most carpeting and engineered woods, such as plywood and particleboard, off-gas VOCs and/or formaldehyde.
- **SEER:** Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating, applied by the DOE to central air conditioning and heat pumps. The most efficient systems have a SEER of 18.9.
- **SUSTAINABLE:** An adjective applied to materials whose production leaves a minimal impact on the environment. Examples: wood from sustainable forests, flooring made from easily regrown grasses; cotton grown without pesticides.
- **VOC:** Volatile organic compounds. Harmful chemicals released in gas form engineered woods and other building materials. ■

Remoding & Makeovers

VOLUME XVII ■ NUMBER 2



Going Eco

Responsible remodeling can be earth-friendly *and* stylish. On the following pages, we show you how. Then, read about some smart kitchen makeovers.

PHOTOGRAPH: LINDA BELL HALL



Early planning and attention to detail add up to a very healthy home

WRITTEN BY CATHY GRIER PHOTOGRAPHS BY LINDA BELL HALL

BUILDING NATURALLY





LEFT: It's easy to see how the two Saltboxes of this newly constructed New York house connect. The side porches are covered with galvanized steel roofing.

ABOVE: The house was sited facing south-southwest for maximum sun. The overhangs keep the summer rays to a minimum while still allowing air to circulate.





ABOVE: The kitchen's solid cherry Shaker-inspired cabinets were finished with tung oil made with citrus solvents. The floors are Southern yellow pine.

LEFT: Homeowner Cathy Grier spent a lot of time looking for just the right materials and products for her healthy house.

WHEN I BEGAN EXPLORING UPSTATE New York, looking for an old house with my partner, Michele Stecker, we never imagined that we would end up purchasing land instead. Having the opportunity to build new meant so many exciting possibilities. We could combine my modern sense of space and Michele's desire for a Colonial with our mutual love of Shaker simplicity. Building new also meant that we could explore energy efficiency and healthier products for the home. But since we had never built before, we were blissfully ignorant of what that would entail.

This was in 2002, before the terms "green" and "sustainability" were so prevalent, and it was sometimes difficult to explain why conscientious choices were so important to us. Initially, my key concerns were respect for the

natural environment, house siting and choosing healthy products that reduced our exposure to the toxins that are found in so many building materials. Now, having gone through the building process, I would add supporting local businesses and acquiring regional building materials to my list.

We knew that to construct our healthy house, it would take research and the full support of a building and design team. We chose architect Dennis Wedlick, whose talent for designing homes with the architectural elements we wanted was well established, to help us realize our vision. And we chose a local contractor, Bill Stratton. He was open to the idea of using alternative materials and brought many skilled crafts people to the project.

With the help of the Internet, I spent hours researching products and materials, and worked closely with Stratton to acquire alternative choices whenever possible. One of the easiest and most beneficial decisions that we made was how we sited the house. We faced it south-southwest to maximize passive solar gain. The overhang design helps keep summer sun out and winter sun in and allows air to naturally circulate, avoiding the cost and energy demands of air conditioning. Fewer windows on the north and east walls protect from winter elements. We cleared the land ourselves, being mindful of the landscape, using wood from a maple and birch tree for our kitchen worktable and some counters.

Since our house is based on a historical design—a Saltbox with a contemporary twist—we wanted to use authentic siding. Offerings of mahogany from the Philippines didn't fit our sustainability criteria, so we found quarter-sawn spruce from a small mill in Granville, Vermont.

BELOW: The kitchen has soapstone countertops and sinks as well as counters fashioned from maple trees cleared to make way for the house.





ABOVE: The fireplace's soapstone surround naturally absorbs heat and radiates it back into the room. The coffee-table bench is made of recycled oak planks.

RIGHT: Sun fills the living room with passive solar warmth in winter. Energy-efficient windows with double-panes help retain the heat.



In thinking about constructing a healthy home, all of the products we considered had to minimize volatile organic compounds (VOCs). We had a strict policy of no glues with harmful solvents or chemical additives. Absolutely no polyurethane products were used to finish any wood surfaces; instead we used tung oil made with citrus solvents. The kitchen cabinetry was built without particleboard or plywood, most of which contains harmful formaldehyde. We chose Eco-Spec paints. We used formaldehyde-free insulation and insulation with cellulose made from recycled content. A central vacuum system vents to the exterior, reducing dust particles. Our heating is a hot-water radiant system, instead of forced air. And we chose an efficient propane boiler that runs on a closed loop system.

Contrary to opinions about building "green" as being more expensive, most of our choices were comparable in price. And small companies were cost equivalent to big-box stores. While we found some green products readily available, such as insulation and paint, others weren't, but as attitudes and demands shift, it's likely more alternative products will become easier to find.

Instead of going over our budget, we put off certain items like finishing our basement in favor of other more critical items. Our dumpster bill was cut by more than half, by removing many items into recycling bins.

My advice for anyone building with eco sensitivity is get involved early and don't be afraid to ask questions or voice concerns. Do what you can do. Even a few of these conscientious choices will make a difference.







OPPOSITE: An antique four-poster bed is the focal point in the master bedroom. Hot water radiators can bring the room from 50°F to cozy in as little as 15 minutes.

LEFT: The dormered master bath provides the perfect space to relax in the vintage tub.

WHAT WAS DONE

- Sited the house to maximize solar benefits; used overhangs and window placement to protect against harsh weather
- Used quarter-sawn spruce siding to meet sustainability requirements; put in formaldehyde-free insulation and insulation with cellulose made from recycled products
- Chose materials with low VOCs; tung oil was used as a finish
- Installed kitchen cabinets that contain no pressure-treated wood or formaldehyde
- Used hot water radiant heat with a boiler that runs on liquid propane ■

FIRST FLOOR



The design of this contemporary Saltbox includes fewer windows on the north and east sides of the house to protect it from winter elements.

SECOND FLOOR



The design also allows air to circulate naturally throughout the house, avoiding the cost and energy demands of air conditioning.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ





PHOTOGRAPHS: NICK GARIBBO

HISTORY LESSON

A classic old house gets an eco-friendly remodel

WRITTEN BY CARLA JORDAN

ON THE CHARM SCALE, TRUMAN AND KRISTIN Collins' house was already a 10. Nestled on lush grounds amidst towering trees in Lake Oswego, Oregon, the 1935 English Tudor cottage, listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NR), was a beauty with a pitched roof, leaded-glass windows, and decorative half-timber trim. As lovely as the house was, Truman and Kristin yearned for a place whose attractiveness was more than skin deep, a place that reflected their eco-friendly and sustainable-building interests. The homeowners' passion springs from their family's forest product business managing 298,000 acres of timberland in Oregon, California and Pennsylvania. It's all certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), which guarantees that wood has been harvested from well-managed forests that protect the environment and wild life.



LEFT: Since their kitchen had last been remodeled in the late 1980s, the Collinses decided to upgrade it as long as they were adding on.

FAR LEFT: The new farmhouse-style kitchen features FSC-certified oak cabinets topped with granite, Energy Star-rated appliances and all new tile work.



The couple wanted to integrate as many green and sustainable materials into their own home while still maintaining its warmth and appeal. The opportunity arose when they decided to enlarge the house to accommodate their growing family. They teamed with designer J. Byron Kellar, of the Neil Kelly Company in Portland, to add 920 square feet to the 2,000-square-foot home. Four new rooms are split between floors—two bedrooms and a bath upstairs and a family room beneath. Kellar also had to work within NR guidelines.

First, they gave the addition an eco-friendly "foundation" by using nearly all FSC-certified wood, including framing lumber. The home's energy efficiency was increased by replacing an oil furnace with a natural gas system, adding extra insulation, and installing an Energy Star–rated water heater and furnace. Long-life products like cement stucco siding, fiberglass windows (manufactured without greenhouse gas emissions), and interior doors made from reclaimed materials, were also used.

ABOVE: The traditional family room's FSC-certified oak wood flooring matches the home's original hardwood. It was treated with a sustainable waterborne floor finish.



RIGHT: Truman and Kristin Collins are passing on their eco-friendly values to their daughter, Clara, and son, Simon.



LEFT: The new bath was retiled and all new fixtures added. A custom vanity is made of wheatboard, a type of particleboard manufactured from wheat chaff. It's formaldehyde-free.

BELOW: Last remodeled in the 1980s, the upstairs bath got a facelift when the addition was put on. The layout wasn't altered.



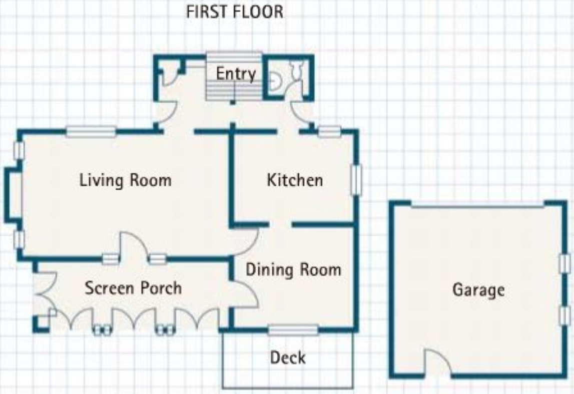
PHOTOGRAPHS: GREG KOZAWA



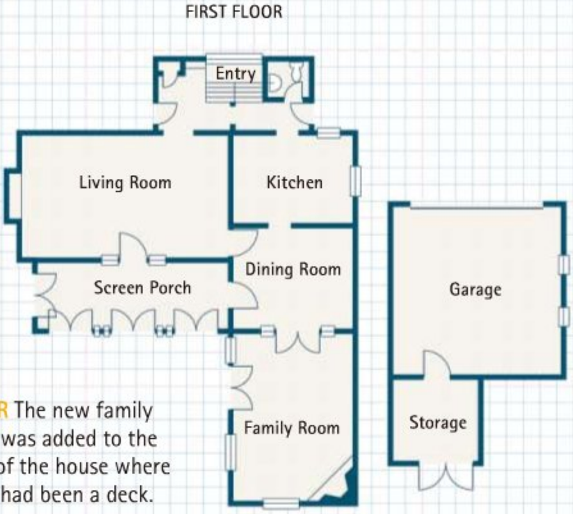


LEFT: The charming 1935 house, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, featured French doors, casement windows and decorative half-timbers on the facade.

ABOVE: The new addition was integrated into the existing structure by matching the steeply pitched roof. The stone patio is a long-life alternative to a wood deck.



BEFORE The original plan called for adding a modern family room. Ultimately, the Collinses also updated the kitchen.



AFTER The new family room was added to the back of the house where there had been a deck.

While adding on, they decided to update the kitchen and bathrooms, too. Kitchen cabinets are FSC-certified wood topped with durable granite. Bath vanities are made of wheatboard, a particleboard made from wheat straw, an agricultural waste product that doesn't off-gas chemicals.

In the end, Truman and Kristin showed that a historic home can be infused with green products and practices and still maintain its integrity. "An eco-friendly renovation pays off in many ways," says Truman. "The materials have a light impact on the environment, and energy efficiency saves money. We added to the history of our house by the choices we made." ■



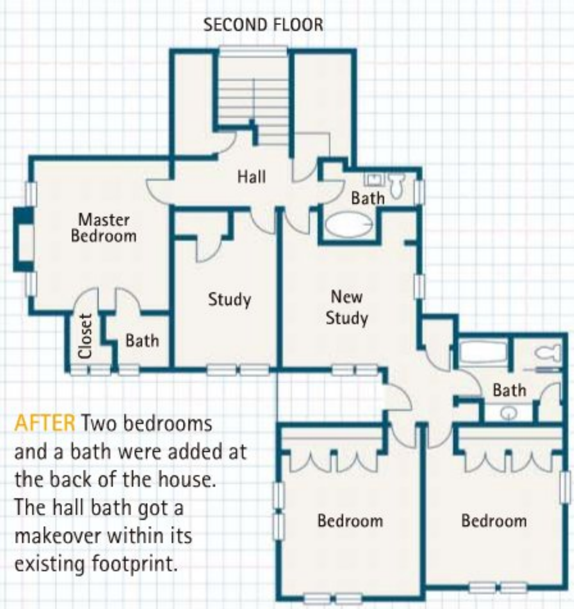
WHAT WAS DONE

- Designed based on the National Register of Historic Places criteria
- Used nearly all FSC-certified wood products, and wheatboard for bath vanities
- Built with eco-friendly products such as fiberglass windows and finger-joined paint grade moldings, which use wood scraps
- Replaced the oil furnace and underground tank with an energy efficient natural gas system; added extra insulation in exposed areas; and installed an Energy Star–rated water heater, furnace and dishwasher
- Matched new door hardware to the original Deco models from 1935 and installed custom tile designed to match the original house tile
- Replaced a wood deck with a basalt stone patio, using natural stone to blend more harmoniously into the landscape

ABOVE: Truman's separate basement-office remodel was also eco-friendly. The lumber and plywood used were FSC-certified, and the cabinets are made of wheatboard.



BEFORE The second floor of the 1935 house had no extra bedrooms for the homeowners' expanding family of two children.



AFTER Two bedrooms and a bath were added at the back of the house. The hall bath got a makeover within its existing footprint.

PHOTOGRAPHS: LEFT, LINDA SVENDSEN; RIGHT, GREG KOZAWA FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ





ROOM TO GROW

Added space, natural materials and passive solar heat upgrade a childhood home

WRITTEN BY MERVYN KAUFMAN
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALEX HAYDEN
STYLED BY MICHELLE CRISTALLI

MARK LEE GREW UP IN THIS 1950S HOUSE, IN Edmonds, Washington, sharing a bedroom with his brother. Six years ago, when his parents decided to sell the house, Mark and his wife, Piper, bought it. "I don't know that we loved it," Piper confesses, "but we loved the yard—a third of an acre of trees and plants—particularly the mature apple trees near the end of the lot."

The one-story house would have to be upgraded for the new family, who were committed to being as green as possible in their remodeling. To do the job, the Lees selected Seattle architect David Foster, who turned the rectangular box into a J-shaped structure framing a bluestone courtyard. What had been a modest home with three bedrooms and one bath became a much more livable house with four bedrooms, three baths, an office and a huge rec room in place of the original

TOP: Viewed from just beyond the bluestone courtyard, the remodeled house is faced with cedar siding and a white-painted composite material. When the Lees entertain, four sets of doors can be opened for optimum traffic flow in and out of the house.

ABOVE: When Mark Lee's parents converted the garage into a rec room, they tacked on a carport.

OPPOSITE: The living room and dining area merge with the kitchen. Only a two-sided fireplace, with drywall as a heat barrier, breaks up the open space.




BEFORE



OPPOSITE ABOVE: The old, confined kitchen had one operable window that looked out on the Lees' backyard.

OPPOSITE: The breakfast bar is a gathering space for the Lees and their children. Made from a composite of cement, sand and fillers, the smooth countertops are easy to maintain. "Using this product means you're not harvesting trees or cutting marble or stone," Piper says.

RIGHT: The children's bath opens from the hallway just off the dining area. Overhead, clerestory windows—set into a structure built inside the lower exterior walls—bring natural light and additional warmth deep into the remodeled house.

living room. The garage Mark's parents had turned into a rec room is now a garage again, with a special raised area for bicycles. Mark rides to his Seattle office, 15 miles away. "Mark is committed to not being dependent on an automobile," Foster says. "He told me he and Piper actually met on bikes."

"I knew we wanted to incorporate solar energy and where possible, choose materials with environmental or sustainable properties," Mark says. When selecting lumber or finished wood, they were mindful that old-growth timber is the least desirable and engineered wood the most. Foster's design called for several 6×12-inch exposed beams, and in each case the Lees choose engineered beams built up from smaller-dimensional lumber. Door and window trim is also from engineered, man-made wood that's easy on the environment.

For flooring, the Lees opted for concrete formulated from abundantly available natural materials. "Connected to that decision," the architect points out, "was their wish to have in-floor radiant heating, an efficient way to heat a house with high ceilings." Other eco-sensitive choices include solvent-free, organic-based paint and countertops made from a composite of cement, water, silica sand and fillers instead of natural stone that depletes the planet's resources.

With its deep overhanging metal roof, the house can be kept at a relatively even temperature with little effort. In winter, the sun's angled rays penetrate the

SEE SOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION



ABOVE: Kemper's bedroom, like that of his sister, Hanna, has its own washstand, separate from the bath. The sliding closet door is faced with chalkboard.

WHAT WAS DONE

- Built two new wings behind the old structure that frame a new courtyard used as an outdoor room
- Converted the rec room back into a two-car garage with a bike-storage area and mudroom
- Turned the old front door into a side entrance and gutted most of the interior walls
- Created a new front door and entry to access the wing with the new kitchen and living/dining area
- Removed the original fireplace and built a new, two-sided unit as a divider between living and dining areas

RIGHT: The study has a niche for a desk and overhead shelving. Ceiling-high windows look out to the side yard, and French doors opposite the desk open onto the courtyard.



BEFORE: The original house was used as a starting point for the addition; the interior was reconfigured and the front door moved.

AFTER: New wings extend back from the old core, providing space for a contiguous living/dining/kitchen area. The courtyard ties new and old structures together.



FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ



house through double-glazed windows and four pairs of French doors—making use of passive solar heating. In summer, the interior is shielded from overhead sunlight by its insulated roof. "In addition," Foster says, "there are a dozen operable clerestory windows, which allow air to circulate, keeping the house relatively cool."

The remodeled residence is three times the size of the 1,120-square-foot original, but thanks to smart design, heating and cooling bills are still reasonable. Having met their green goals, the new earth-friendly house is perfectly suited for the Lees and their two children, Hanna, 9, and Kemper, 6. "I didn't realize how great a space it would become," Piper says. ■

A NEW ATTITUDE

Recycled glass and denim insulation are among the



green products in this eco-smart kitchen

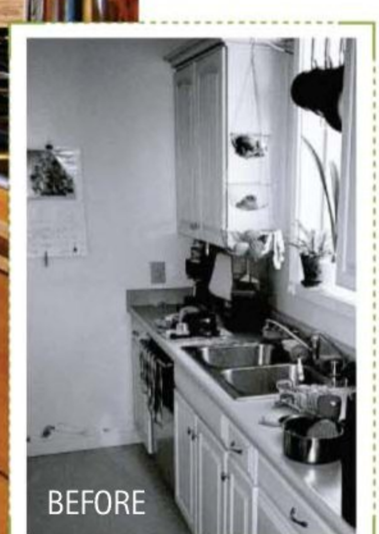
WRITTEN BY LIZ SEYMOUR PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID DUNCAN LIVINGSTON



"I'M SORT OF KNOWN AS THE GREEN GIRL IN town," laughs Santa Cruz, California–based designer Lydia Corser. "I bring my own take-out containers to restaurants. I carry my own water bottle. It's so much a part of who I am—there's no way for me not to design green."

Ten years ago, when Lydia founded Eco Interiors, she often had to drive an hour or more just to find earth-friendly materials for her clients. These days it's a lot easier to go green—so much so that when the time came to remodel the kitchen in her own home, Lydia had trouble choosing among the many options. "I was my own worst client," she says. "I had a terrible time making decisions."

The kitchen that emerged from nine months of careful deliberation and nine more months of construction (Lydia's husband, Brian, was the contractor) is attractive, efficient, roomy—and green. The cabinet boxes are built of wheatboard, a non-formaldehyde particleboard made with wheat chaff. "They smell faintly of new-mown hay when you open them," says Lydia. Cabinet doors are custom made of cherry from sustainable forests. The backsplash is tiled with colorful



LEFT: Homeowner Lydia Corser knew her 7×10-foot galley kitchen needed a major renovation. It just didn't accommodate the cooking needs of her family.

FAR LEFT: Not only did Lydia take space from the garage to create a 12×10-foot kitchen, she raised the floor 8 inches to bring it level with the rest of the house.

squares of recycled glass and the floor is natural linoleum. Even the insulation in the walls and under the floor is made of scrap denim.

When Lydia and Brian bought their 50-year-old house in 1998, they knew that the narrow 7×10-foot galley kitchen would need a major overhaul. "I designed the new kitchen around the way we cook," she says. Lydia and her daughter, Isabel, use the long counter near the oven for baking and, on the opposite side, Brian uses a smaller counter and cooktop for family meals. Space borrowed from the garage expanded the kitchen to 10×12 feet, and lazy Susans, pullouts, and drawer organizers extend its storage capacity. "I looked for anything that could make a small kitchen work harder," says Lydia.

Even the old kitchen went green in its own way: Some of the cabinets were donated to a nonprofit agency and others were reused in the garage/laundry room. "When it was all over, no cabinets went to the landfill," says Lydia. "There's something really satisfying about knowing that you've done the right thing."



RIGHT: The old kitchen's appliances were woefully out of date.

FAR RIGHT: In this corner, Brian prepares most of the family meals. The oven is now opposite the cooktop so that Lydia can bake while Brian cooks.




365
EXTRA VIRGIN


"CRITICS AGREE!"

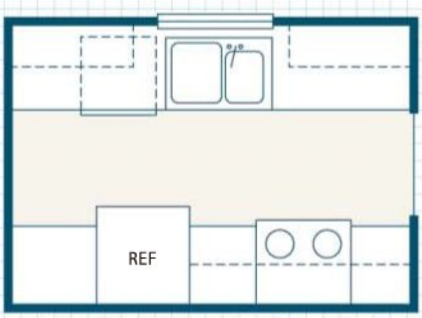


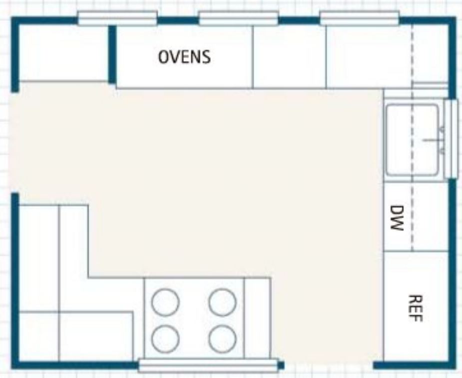
Countertops are made from paper fibers treated with a resin and baked into sheets. The cherry door frames are made from wood harvested from managed forests.



Unfinished butcher-block is the archetypal renewable counter. If it gets beat up, a sanding makes it like new. As a bonus, wood naturally fights bacteria.

BEFORE A galley layout can be highly efficient for a single person in a starter home, but for a two-cook family, it was woefully insufficient.





AFTER The additional real estate allows some breathing room in the kitchen. The small L is Brian's cooking station; the larger L is Lydia's territory.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

OPPOSITE: The base cabinets have sunflower-seed hull panels; the cabinet boxes are wheatboard. As the name implies, they're made from wheat, which renews far faster than trees.

WHAT WAS DONE

- Took space from the garage to expand the kitchen by 50 square feet
- Added transom windows and created an opening into the dining room to bring in more natural light
- Repositioned the window over the sink to make the most of the view out into the landscaped backyard
- Installed 9-inch-wide pull-outs on either side of the cooktop to hold spices, oils and vinegars
- Used Energy Star appliances for maximum energy efficiency
- Included eco-friendly materials throughout—wheatboard cabinets, linoleum flooring, recycled glass tiles, and cabinet panels made from sunflower-seed hulls. ■

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS





grand OPENING

A center island and smart appliance placement make a small kitchen seem bigger

WRITTEN BY KRISTINA SIGLER

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC ROTH

STYLED BY SABRINA VELANDRY

OFTEN NEW HOMEOWNERS WILL SAY, "THIS kitchen is way too small—let's expand it." And they begin to dream about annexations, bump-outs, and even additions. Not so with Jean and John Pannell, who relocated to Duxbury, Massachusetts, and bought a house with a kitchen markedly smaller and less functional than the one they left behind in Idaho. In the $10\frac{1}{2}\times21$-foot room, appliances and counters hugged the perimeter of three walls and a peninsula, leaving a gaping center that was useless save for foot traffic. To attain a kitchen with a more user-friendly layout, the Pannells enlisted the help of designer Cameron Snyder, of Kitchen Concepts in nearby Norwell.

Snyder opened up the kitchen and made it less boxy by eliminating the peninsula, which looked out onto the family room. He also swapped the placement of stacked wall ovens with the fridge, and put a stovetop in a new center island, creating an efficient work triangle removed from traffic. "The switch makes sense because I can pull what I need from the fridge and



FAR LEFT: The new kitchen blends traditional coffered ceilings with more contemporary cabinets and combines bold black with equally strong minty green.

LEFT: The peninsula cut the kitchen off from the adjacent family room, and the appliance placement made cooking an inefficient enterprise.



LEFT: The farmhouse sink and gooseneck faucet are two more traditional touches that play against the sleek cabinets and countertops. The dishwasher, left of the sink, is hidden behind a cabinet panel door.

OPPOSITE: The center island houses a cooktop and a prep sink. Narrow cabinets on either side of the cooktop are pull-out spice racks. Below the prep sink is a pull-out trash receptacle.

place it right on the counter, or take it a few steps to the sinks or burners," says Jean. "I don't use the ovens that much. So having them across the room is fine."

Now the kitchen revolves around the multilevel center island, which, in addition to a stove, has a prep sink and breakfast counter large enough for five. The raised breakfast bar and tall cabinets hide the mess on the working side of the island. Instead of drab white cupboards, the new kitchen boasts dramatic green-stained cabinetry topped with black granite and customized with loads of storage. "We have microwave and appliance garages, and many pullouts, including two pantries," Jean says. "I thought I would miss the huge walk-in pantry I had in Idaho, but these work well."

The handsome cabinet styling includes lit storage behind glass doors, which shows off Jean's colorful collection of vintage American dishes. The glass was installed frosted side in, smooth side out, "so you get these unique reflections that you see on top of the texture—and it's easier to wipe clean," Jean says. Snyder also built a faux-detached cupboard with plenty of open display and closed storage, which he distressed to look early American.

All this efficiency, combined with the confident green hue, the wheat color walls, and a new coffered ceiling replicated from the Idaho kitchen, give the room an upbeat, hardworking, welcoming character—in short, for the Pannells, it's the place to be.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS





LEFT: Homeowner Jean Pannell's collection of teacups are lit up and on display behind glass on one side of the multitiered center island. Serving pieces are stored in the cabinets below.

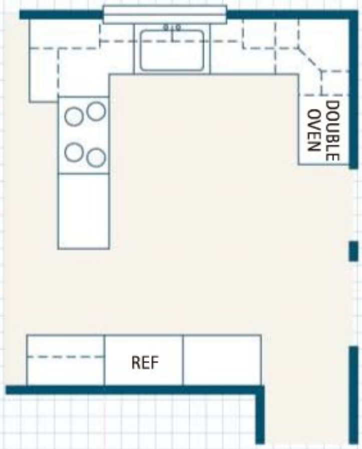
WHAT WAS DONE

- Created a more efficient work triangle by swapping the placement of the oven and refrigerator
- Added a center island with a stovetop, sink and breakfast bar
- Added a new farmhouse sink
- Installed cabinets, many with concealed storage features and some with frosted-glass doors
- Used integrated cabinet panels to hide dishwasher and refrigerator fronts
- Replaced wood floor with slate
- Added a coffered ceiling and pendant lights

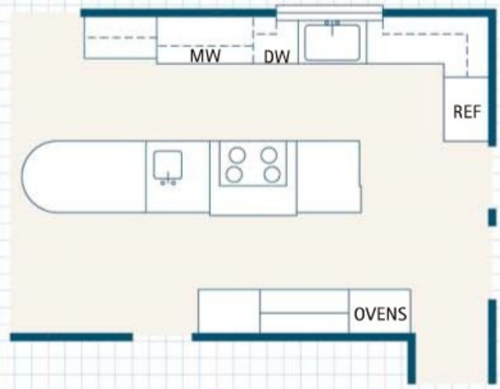


ABOVE: In the old kitchen, the refrigerator was isolated from the rest of cooking area. In the new layout, the fridge and wall ovens swapped places because Jean doesn't use the ovens all that much.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ



BEFORE In the old kitchen, appliances and cabinets were all placed against the walls, while plenty of usable floor space in the center of the room went unused.



AFTER The new kitchen makes much better use of the same space with smarter appliance and cabinet placement and the addition of a center island to aid traffic flow.



These two hefty roll-out cabinets serve as the kitchen's pantry. A landing space on the center island just opposite, makes stocking and retrieval an easy exercise.



To keep the look sleek, cabinetry is employed to hide hard-working appliances throughout the kitchen. Here, the microwave is hidden from view with a flip-up door. ■


HONEY
DCS

FAMILY FRIENDLY

An inefficient, chopped-up kitchen becomes the hub of the house

WRITTEN BY BERNADETTE BACZYNSKI
PHOTOGRAPHS BY KEN GUTMAKER
STYLED BY LINDA POPE

SAN FRANCISCANS TOM AND TAMARA MACK LOVE old houses. They especially like ones that need work. So their goal when house-hunting five years ago was to find a fixer-upper they could "make our own," says Tamara, "and not have to live with someone else's remodel."

When the couple found a 1914 California Prairie-style house, that's precisely what they got. The kitchen especially needed help. A 1950s renovation had left it with an inefficient floor plan that directed back-door traffic through the prep area, and there was a washer and dryer next to the refrigerator. Barbie-pink appliances, limited counter space, and peeling vinyl floors (that the couple's three young sons couldn't resist picking at) were other annoyances.

After making some quick cosmetic fixes, the couple lived with the kitchen for several years while figuring out how best to change it. Then they called in good friend





LEFT: The old kitchen had wasted space, upper cabinets that blocked light, and dated pink appliances.

OPPOSITE: The new room boasts a Robin's-egg blue backsplash and a gas range with a custom hood.

RIGHT: An abundance of white cabinets topped with Carrara marble offer lots of storage and counterspace. The island's "dessert cabinet" has a child-proof lock.



and designer Tineke Triggs to help turn the space into a family-friendly room with a place for every thing and every activity. The new L-shaped arrangement has a sink, range and refrigerator along one wall with double ovens adjacent. A generous island with a small sink and microwave divide prep and traffic areas.

The Macks always knew they wanted white cabinets. The custom models are topped with Carrara marble selected for its subtle look and color—and, Tamara says, because it's less expensive than granite. Custom built-ins include a lazy Susan, spice drawer, knife drawer and pull-out pantry. Other drawers have assigned uses, from baking supplies and paper products to baby bottles and juice cups that the boys can reach themselves.

To gain a spacious eating area, Triggs relocated the back door and carved out room for a banquette and table against a corner wall. This also allowed her to turn an old storage area into a mudroom.

ABOVE: A second sink is useful when the Macks have guests who help with prep and cooking. New windows and a trio of antique crystal pendants add to the room's bright new look.

RIGHT: The path to the back door was right through the middle of the old kitchen. The fridge was the buffer between cooking and laundry areas.

FAR RIGHT: A built-in banquette and dining table are like a "mini family room," says Tamara. Her boys can work on projects at the table or play on the floor and still remain a safe distance away from the cooking area as she prepares meals.



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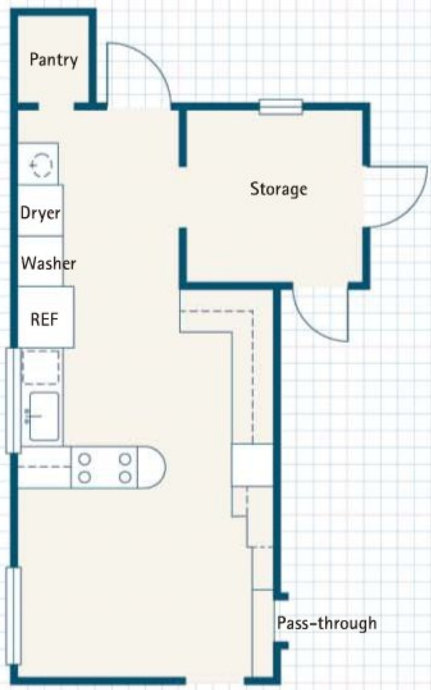
ABOVE LEFT: The Carrara marble countertops have ogee edging with a stepped-back detail. "I don't mind maintaining the marble because I love how it looks," says Tamara. She chose marble over granite because it's less expensive.

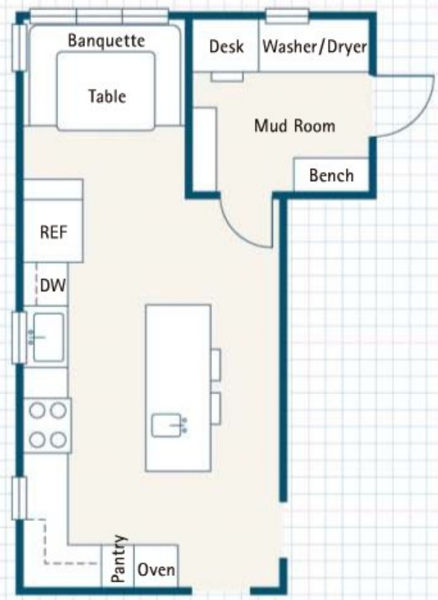
ABOVE: The new mudroom also serves as the back entry. It houses the washer/dryer that's tucked under a long counter, a bench, open shelving and a small computer station.

LEFT: A tall pull-out pantry located next to the double ovens keeps supplies easily within reach of the food-prep area.

“NOW, WHILE THE BOYS ARE PLAYING AT THE TABLE, I CAN DO LAUNDRY AND FOLD CLOTHES AT THE ISLAND.”

BEFORE A chopped up floor plan, courtesy of a peninsula, directed traffic through the work zone. Worse, a washer and dryer were taking up precious storage and counter space.





AFTER The new L-shape plan put the sink, range and refrigerator on one wall with ample counter space. Relocating the laundry to the mudroom made space for a banquette.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

In deference to the home’s age, the Macks wanted to keep the kitchen separate from the formal dining room, so they closed up a pass-through that had been added in the ’50s. “When we have guests, the adults can have the dining room to themselves and all the kids can gather at the banquette,” says Tamara.

One positive thing Tamara learned from living with the old layout was how much she liked having her washer/dryer in the kitchen. So along with storage for coats and boots, the new mudroom houses a washer and dryer. “I’m in the kitchen most of the day,” she says, “so now, while the boys are playing at the table, I can do laundry and fold clothes at the island. Our kitchen is our new family room.” ■

WHAT WAS DONE

- Gutted the kitchen but retained original footprint while creating an L-shaped floor plan
- Put in a new island, custom cabinets, marble countertops, wood floors and antique crystal pendant lights
- Installed new stainless steel appliances, and replaced electric cooktop with gas range
- Relocated the back door to create a built-in eating area; added new windows and reconfigured their placement
- Turned an old storage area into a mudroom; closed a pass-through to dining room





VINTAGE ADVANTAGE

A modern, two-cook kitchen loses none of its old-fashioned appeal

WRITTEN BY NANCY RUHLING
PHOTOGRAPHS BY TRIA GIOVAN
PRODUCED AND STYLED BY DONNA PAUL

AS A COUPLE WHO LOVE TO COOK TOGETHER, GAIL Eisenkraft and her husband, Nino DeNicola, longed for a state-of the-art kitchen with lots of storage. The one in their 1762 Southport, Connecticut, colonial was a circa-1800 addition and had last been upgraded back in the late 1970s. "I hated the kitchen the moment I saw it," Gail says. A sink and refrigerator were on one wall of the 14×15-foot room and the range on another. There was limited counter space and even less storage. So after living with the dark, awkwardly laid-out room for five years and making detailed drawings of how their dream kitchen might look, the couple enlisted architect Matthew E. Schoenherr, of Z Architecture in nearby Branford, to help bring it to fruition. The result is a light-filled, gathering spot perfectly equipped for cook's cooks.

The 7-foot ceiling was raised to cathedral height with steel-reinforced antique wood beams salvaged from a barn. A wall of windows (with a window seat) was added



FAR LEFT: The low 7-foot ceiling was raised to 11 feet with steel-reinforced antique barn beams providing support. New windows are meant to mimic period panes.

LEFT: The old kitchen and sunroom were separated by an interior wall (left) with no cabinets. It was only visible via the window over the sink.





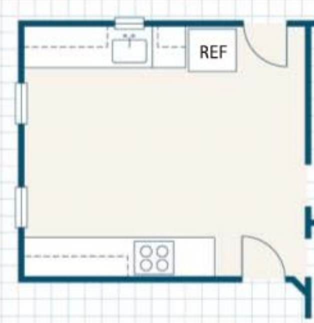
ABOVE: All attempts to add function to the kitchen—such as this makeshift message center—ultimately failed.

LEFT: An original opening in the eaves uncovered during the room's gut renovation was marked with a door. Later, the homeowners found a perfect-height antique French ladder to place below it.

and existing windows were replaced with larger ones. To fashion an efficient U-shaped work space, a farmhouse sink and stainless steel fridge were put on one wall and a pro-style range centered on the back wall; much needed counters were created with a row of cabinets topped with slate opposite the sink. "We made complete use of the space," Gail says. "We have a bread drawer and a spice drawer, and Nick's favorite feature is a butcher-block chopping area with a hole to drop scraps through."

Though modernizing the room was important to the couple, style was, too. Modified Shaker-style cabinets are distressed and colored with milk paint; the Mexican limestone backsplash is warm yellow. New wide-plank floors echo the honey-hued vintage ones in the rest of the house. Cubbyholes above the range hood display a collection of 18th-century Jaspe pottery. And an antique ladder leans against a wall, leading to a door near the ceiling. During the renovation, workers found remnants of a small door to the eaves in this spot.

"The room is like a welcoming embrace," says Gail. "Even when we're not cooking, we like to sit at the table and look out at the backyard." ■



BEFORE The '70s kitchen had little free wall space yet offered practically no storage. The fridge and sink, located on one wall, seemed miles away from the oven on the opposite side of the room.



AFTER Cabinets and appliances now line three walls creating a U-shaped layout perfect for a couple who love to cook together. The small window over the original sink grew into a 55×60-inch window wall.

FLOOR PLANS: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ



ABOVE: The custom Shaker-style cabinetry was distressed and colored with milk paint. A butcher-block prep area next to the stove is integrated into the slate counters. The deep farmhouse sink and gooseneck faucet were high on Gail and Nino's wish list.

WHAT WAS DONE

- Created a floor plan with efficient work zones and state-of-the-art appliances
- Made the windows larger but individual panes smaller with vintage-style muntins
- Raised the ceiling to the roof with steel-reinforced vintage beams to make the kitchen look and feel larger
- Added a window seat to blend indoor and outdoor spaces
- Increased storage by installing extra cabinetry and cubbies in the gable ■

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602. Brothers Pacesetter Sewing Machines. Create the perfect accent for any room with easy to use sewing machines, embroidery machines and sergers. Color brochure shows how easy it is to create professional results at home with your Pacesetter Sewing System. BROTHER SM. **Free**

603. Janome. The Janome Jem Gold 660 takes the next step in compact portability, offering a jam-proof drop-in bobbin and an automatic needle threader. This 12 lb. machine offers 8 stitches. Standard Janome quality and durability make this the perfect machine for first time sewist or for taking to classes. Janome-Because You Simply Love To Sew. JANOME. **Free**

649. All free Listings Above

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650. Budget Blinds®. Find ideas and inspiration in the Budget Blinds® FREE Design Guide, Point of Views™. Budget Blinds offers a great selection of custom window coverings, professional measuring and installation, FREE In-home Consultation and over 1,000 Style Consultatns nationwide. Now offering financing. BUDGET BLINDS® **Free.**

651. Sunburst Shutters. Give your windows the treatment they deserve: Sunburst Shutters. Our Polywood shutters are the world's best. They will add more beauty and value to your home than any other window covering. Request a catalog and see the difference Sunburst Shutters make. SUNBURST SHUTTERS **Free.**

652. Easy Crown Molding. The do-it-yourself crown molding system that installs in less than an hour with no tools or measuring. One Easy Crown Moldng kit will decorate a 17' x 17' room, without the hassles or expense of traditional crown molding. A great finishing touch to any home decor. EZAPEEL **Free.**

GARDENING, LANDSCAPING & OUTDOOR FURNITURE

700. Fiskars. Producing quality garden tools since 1649, with a tradition of precision and comfort. Find out why we've got the right tools for you!. FISKARS. **Free.**

701. Mailorder Gardening Association. Welcome to the wonderful world of *Gardening By Mail* where catalogs inspire new possibilities for your garden and serve as useful, creative and educational planning tools. Receive featured literature from *Gardening By Mail* supporting advertisers. MAILORDER GARDENING ASSOCIATION. **Free.**

702. Royal Crown Limited. Triple Crown® Fence eliminates fence headaches. Why worry about rotten posts, termites or toxic chemical treatments? Our beautiful maintenance-free vinyl fence never needs scraping and painting. Invest in a lifetime of carefree ownership. ROYAL CROWN LIMITED. **Free.**

703. Wicker Warehouse. Beautiful wicker and rattan furniture. Teak, wrought iron and Aluminum too! National brands from Lane, Woodard, Cebu, South Sea and More! Plus our own hand-picked imports of bedrooms, bathrooms and children's furniture. WICKER WAREHOUSE. **Free**

749. All Free Listings From Above.

PAINT, STAIN, DECK & SIDING

751. Easy Weekend Projects. This attractive 12-page guide for Minwax® contains easy wood finishing and home decorating projects you can do in a weekend. Also featured are helpful tips and techniques on wood maintenance and repair. MINWAX®. **Free**

752. Brock Deck™. THE ORIGINAL VINYL DECK SYSTEM-Brock Deck™ is the #1 choice in vinyl decking. And has been since 1989 when we invented the first vinyl deck. Wide selection of railing styles in 3 matching colors. BROCK DECK™ ROYAL CROWN LIMITED **Free**

753. Eon® Decking. Eon® is a revolutionary maintenance-free alternative-decking product that features the beauty and feel of natural wood and is backed by a lifetime limited warranty. Eon® beautifies your outdoor living...forever. EON® DECKING. **Free**

754. TimberTech Decking. TimberTech wood-composite decking provides long-lasting performance and low-maintenance with crisp aesthetics. The planks are available in a variety of profiles in Cedar, Grey and Redwood with an Ornamental Rail system also available in White Sand. TIMBERTECH **Free**

755. Elk. Elk Premium Building Products manufactures quality building materials including a wide variety of laminated asphalt shingles and the durable CrossTimbers™ brand of composite decking and fencing. ELK. **Free**

756. True Value. True Value's Color Made Simple paint program features Certified Color Experts and exclusive tools to make finding your perfect shade simple. TRUE VALUE. **Free**

757. KILZ® Stainblocking Ceiling Paint. A new primer-based paint from the KILZ brand. The first ceiling paint that blocks stains and features a revolutionary color changing technology. Ideal for covering and sealing water damage on ceilings. KILZ. **Free**

758. Eldorado Stone, LLC. Eldorado Stone offers several distinct profiles and a variety of color blends from which to choose. Hand-crafted by artisans, be inspired by the beauty and believability of Eldorado. ELDORADO STONE. **Free**

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- ❑ 102
- ❑ 103
- ❑ 104
- ❑ 105

Kitchen Appliances
- ❑ 151
- ❑ 152
- ❑ 153
- ❑ 154
- ❑ 155
- ❑ 156
- ❑ 157
- ❑ 158
- ❑ 159

Kitchens & Baths Cabinets & Countertops
- ❑ 202
- ❑ 203
- ❑ 204
- ❑ 205
- ❑ 206
- ❑ 207
- ❑ 208
- ❑ 209
- ❑ 210
- ❑ 211
- ❑ 212

Kitchens & Baths Faucets & Sinks
- ❑ 250
- ❑ 251
- ❑ 252
- ❑ 253
- ❑ 254
- ❑ 255
- ❑ 256
- ❑ 257

Bathroom Fixtures
- ❑ 303
- ❑ 304
- ❑ 305
- ❑ 306
- ❑ 307
- ❑ 308
- ❑ 309
- ❑ 310

Water Filtration
- ❑ 350

Flooring
- ❑ 400
- ❑ 401
- ❑ 402
- ❑ 403
- ❑ 404
- ❑ 405
- ❑ 406

Heating &Cooling
- ❑ 855
- ❑ 856
- ❑ 857

Pools, Spas, Saunas, & Hot Tubs
- ❑ 501

Ceilings & Lighting Fixtures
- ❑ 552

Sewing/ Vacuums
- ❑ 601
- ❑ 602
- ❑ 603

Decorating Accessories
- ❑ 650
- ❑ 651
- ❑ 652

Gardening, Landscaping & Outdoor Furniture
- ❑ 700
- ❑ 701
- ❑ 702
- ❑ 703

Paint/Stain/ Deck & Siding
- ❑ 751
- ❑ 752
- ❑ 753
- ❑ 754
- ❑ 755
- ❑ 756
- ❑ 757
- ❑ 758

Financial
- ❑ 851

SEND ME ALL FREE LISTINGS IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES.

- ❑ 149. Kitchen Appliances
- ❑ 199. Kitchens & Baths Cabinets/Countertops
- ❑ 299. Kitchens & Baths Faucets/ Sinks
- ❑ 349. Bathroom Fixtures
- ❑ 399. Windows/Doors
- ❑ 449. Flooring
- ❑ 549. Pools, Spas, Saunas & Hot Tubs
- ❑ 649. Sewing/Vacuums
- ❑ 749. Gardening/Landscaping/ & Outdoor Furniture
- ❑ 799. Paint/Stain/Deck/Siding

Priced Literature

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Kitchens & Baths Cabinets & Countertops
- ❑ 201. **$5.00**
- ❑ 204. **$3.00**

Bathroom Fixtures
- ❑ 301. **$2.00**
- ❑ 302. **$2.00**

Ceilings & Lighting Fixtures
- ❑ 551. **$1.00**

Paint/Stain/ Deck & Siding
- ❑ 752. **$1.00**

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Shown on page 40

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[resources]

[buying guide]

Building Naturally
Pages 56–63:

Reprinted with permission from *House Magazine*: www.housemedianetwork.com; 845-340-9600. ***Architect*** and ***designer***, Dennis Wedlick, Dennis Wedlick Architect. ***Builder***, Bill Stratton Building Company. ***Paint***, Benjamin Moore. ***Windows***, Marvin. ***Roofing***, Owens Corning. ***Lighting***, Rejuvenation. ***Refrigerator*** and ***freezer***, Amana. ***Range*** and ***hood***, Viking. ***Fireplace***, Vermont Soapstone. ***Tub***, Sunrise Speciality.

History Lesson
Pages 64–69:

Designer and ***contractor***, Neil Kelly Co. ***Lumber***, ***plywood***, ***exterior half-timbers*** and ***flooring*** The Collins Companies. ***Paint***, low-VOC, Benjamin Moore. ***Windows***, Andersen Renewal. ***Doors***, Simpson. ***Cabinetry***, Neil Kelly Co. ***Range***, Thermador. ***Kitchen sink***, Kohler. ***Lighting***, Rejuvenation. ***Tile***, Pratt and Larson. ***Granite countertops***, Infinity Stone. ***Bathtub***, American Standard. ***Toilet***, Kohler.

Room to Grow
Pages 70–75:

Architect, David Foster Architects. ***Windows***, Milgard. ***Doors***, Simpson. ***Paint***, Benjamin Moore. ***Exterior-wood finishing***, Sikkens. ***Siding***, JamesHardie. ***Lighting***, Ikea. ***Cabinetry***, Coyote Cabinets. ***Cabinet hardware***, Lee Valley & Veritas. ***Countertops***, Richlite. ***Buffet surface*** and ***fireplace hearth***, DogPaw Design. ***Hand-blown glass lighting fixtures***, Resolute. ***Range*** and ***oven***, Wolf. ***Refrigerator***, Sub-Zero. ***Dishwasher***, Asko. ***Bathroom sink***, American Standard.

A New Attitude
Pages 76–81:

Designer, Lydia Corser, Eco Interiors. ***House-wide insulation***, Ultratouch. ***Cabinetry***, Neil Kelly Co. ***Hull panels***, Environ Biocomposites. ***Faucet***, KWC. ***Sink***, Kohler. ***Backsplash***, Sandhill Industries. ***Oven***, Viking. ***Cooktop***, DCS. ***Microwave***, Sharp. ***Lighting***, Krasslight, Policelli Italian Lighting & Design. ***Granite countertops***, Cutting Edge. ***Flooring***, Forbo.

Grand Opening
Pages 82–87:

Designer, Cameron Snyder, Kitchen Concepts, Inc. ***Contractors***, Brian O'Brien and Peter Souza, O'Brien Construction. ***Wall paint***, Benjamin Moore. ***Slate flooring***, Snug Harbor Tile. ***Cabinetry***, Homestead Cabinetry. ***Countertop design***, Kitchen Concepts, Inc. ***Refrigerator***, Sub-Zero. ***Oven***, ***cooktop*** and ***warming drawers***, KitchenAid. ***Microwave***, GE. ***Dishwasher***, Miele. ***Sink***, Porcher. ***Recessed lighting***, Lightolier.

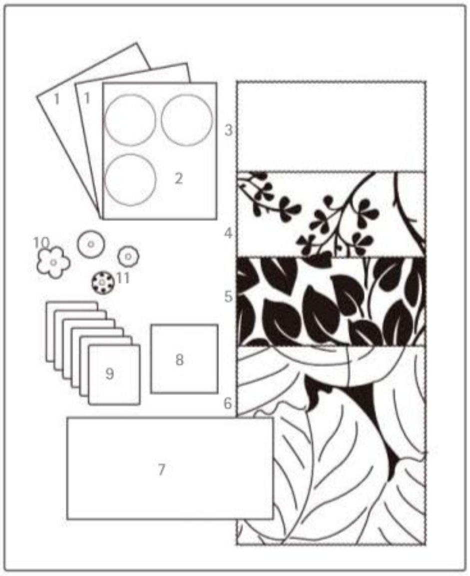
Family Friendly
Pages 88–93:

Designer and ***architect***, Tineke Triggs, Artistic Designs for Living. ***Paint***, #144, Ann Hall Color Design. ***Cabinetry***, California Woodworking. ***Cabinet hardware***, Bauerware. ***Backsplash tile***, Ocean Mist, Westminster Ceramics. ***Oven***, Whirlpool. ***Range***, DCS. ***Refrigerator***, Jenn-Air. ***Dishwasher***, Bosch. ***Microwave***, Amana. ***Sink*** and ***faucet***, Blanco. ***Island stools*** and ***banquette cushions***, Crate & Barrel. ***Banquette cushion fabric***, Laura Ashley, Kravet. ***Chandelier***, Crystorama.

Vintage Advantage
Pages 94–97:

Architect, Matthew E. Shoenherr, Z Architecture. ***Contractor***, Meinke Associates. ***Windows***, Clearview Glass. ***Wall paint***, #5, Donald Kaufman Color Collection. ***Trim paint***, Benjamin Moore. ***Cabinetry***, Dana Robes Wood Craftsmen. ***Cabinetry paint***, Buttermilk, New England Historical Connection. ***Cabinetry finish***, Charles Udry, The Finishing Company. ***Countertops***, Sheldon Slate, Klaff's. ***Backsplash***, Giallo Rustico, Stone Source. ***Range***, Dacor. ***Range hood***, Vent-A-Hood. ***Dishwasher***, Miele. ***Sink***, AF Supply. ***Faucet***, Waterworks.

[color cues, page 28]



1 | Papilo Vinyl wallpaper in 26 and 27 colorways. Available to the trade only, $140 per roll. *www.osborneandlittle.com.*

2 | Half Max grasscloth in Terrain from the Maxwell Group. $212 per roll. 888-222-3036; *www.twenty2.net.*

3 | Collide fabric in Lemon-Lime from the Robert Allen Contract Kiwi-Peacock Bermuda collection. $40 per yard. 800-333-3777; *www.robertallendesign.com.*

4 | Thibaut Waterlily collection F91101 Saffron. $78 per yard. 800-223-0704; *www.thibautdesign.com.*

5 | Duralee Fabrics 14582 in color 253 Mint Leaf, $98 per yard. 800-275-3872, *www.duralee.com.*

6 | Monserrat fabric in 02 colorway from the Bonaire collection. Available to the trade only, $126 per yard. *www.osborneandlittle.com.*

7 | Stainmaster Grand Manor carpet in New Spring. Starting at $12 per square foot. 800-854-0357; *www.fabrica.com.*

8 | Apple Martini quartz surface. Starting at $75 per installed square foot. 877-978-2789; *www.caesarstoneus.com.*

9 | Valspar paints in, from left: Can't Miss Lime, Parakeet Green, Sassy Green, Mountain Botanical, Shallow Valley and Lovely Green. About $20 per gallon. Available at Lowes. *www.lowes.com.*

10 | Liz's Antique Hardware SK-K3G flower, $12.50; SK-BK5-G spiral, $6.50. 323-939-4403; *www.lahardware.com.*

11 | Te-Ma hardware DPC13 in pistachio, $13; Carnival in clear with green dots, $26. 845-679-5571; *www.te-ma.com.*

[sources]

AF Supply
800-366-2284
www.afsupply.com

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800-843-0304
www.amana.com

American Standard
800-442-1902
www.americanstandard-us.com

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DogPaw Design
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Donald Kaufman Color Collection
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[sources] continued from page 105

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Snug Harbor Tile
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Stone Source
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www.stonesource.com

Sub-Zero
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www.subzero.com

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www.sunrisespecialty.com

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www.thermador.com

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www.bondedlogic.com

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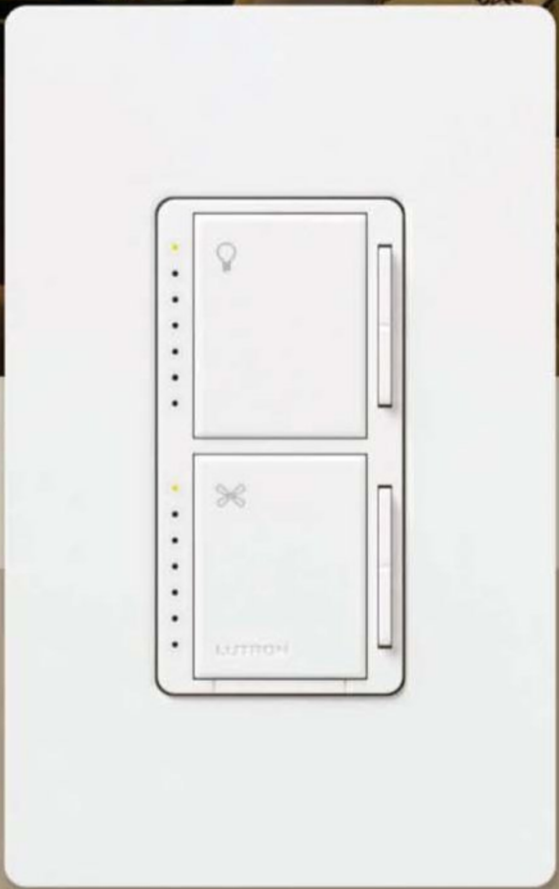


For some, living off the grid in a cabin like this among towering pines, sparkling water and crystal clear skies is the stuff of dreams. For others, spending time in such a remote spot (what, no cell phone?) might not appeal at all. No matter what your preference, we've all become aware that preserving such settings is a worthy enterprise now and for the future.

—Karen Walden, Editor

PHOTOGRAPH: RON WATTS/GETTY IMAGES





Maestro fan control and digital fade dimmer with screwless wallplate in white.